





James Caulfeild Gordon
92nd Highlanders

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85^a

von Gafelt an Labodog-Lan
von der Kewigal-Pfarrkan und Pfarrer

CATECHETICAL EXPLANATION

OF THE

Field Exercise and Evolutions

OF

THE ARMY.

FOR THE USE AND GUIDANCE OF THE

93d HIGHLANDERS.

LONDON:

PRINTED AND SOLD BY W. CLOWES AND SONS,
14, CHARING CROSS.

1835.

CATHEMETICAL EXPLANATION

FIELD EXTRACTS AND EXPLANATIONS



FOR THE USE AND REFERENCE OF THE

MR. HIGHTLANDERS

LONDON

PRINTED AND SOLD BY J. JOHNSON AND SONS

ST. MARTIN'S CROSS

1833

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REGIMENTAL ORDER.

WITH a view to produce that perfect uniformity and precision in the execution of the movements prescribed by the King's command for the drill of the battalion, which it is at present so difficult to attain, on account of the various interpretations given of the particulars laid down in "The Field Exercise and Evolutions of the Army," and "The Abstract" of them issued from the Horse Guards in 1824, Lieutenant-Colonel M'Gregor has been tempted to publish the following little work, which has been thrown into a catechetical form; for this reason, amongst others, that it might the better enable himself and the Adjutant to pursue the practice that has already been attended with apparent benefit, of ascertaining by periodical and systematic examinations of the junior officers, and the non-commissioned officers, how far they are qualified by an intimate acquaintance with the principles, as well as the practice, of drill, to instruct the companies and squads committed to their charge.

The Lieutenant-Colonel has endeavoured, in the following pages, wherever it was possible, to reduce the numerous details contained in the authorized volumes under a few general rules; and in the many cases, where those works are either silent altogether, or appear to be ambiguous, respecting points of detail which it is of importance to fix, he has sought to determine them rather by a reference to analogous rules of acknowledged perspicuity, than by any favourite views of his

own. As the contents of this little volume, therefore, may be regarded as Lieutenant-Colonel M'Gregor's explanation of every subject essentially connected with the field movements, and consequently that which he would give *viva voce* in the daily drill of the regiment, he desires that the rules herein prescribed may be henceforward strictly adhered to by every officer and non-commissioned officer in the 93d Highlanders.

Brecon Barracks, April, 1831.

The system of Field Exercise and Movement of the Infantry having been, by the King's command, revised, curtailed, and simplified, since the publication of the little volume, to which the foregoing order refers, Lieutenant-Colonel M'Gregor has made the corrections and alterations consequent thereon, in the present edition of the Catechism, which, he has been led to believe, may still be useful to the young officers and non-commissioned officers of the regiment.

Weedon Barracks, April, 1835.

N.B.—The figures in the margin of the following pages refer to the section, clause, and page in “The Field Exercise and Evolutions of the Army,” except where otherwise expressed; those in the text relate to the Question and Page in this volume.

The words of command given by the Commanding Officer of the battalion are distinguished by being in CAPITAL letters.

CATECHETICAL EXPLANATION.

SECTION I.

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS QUESTIONS.

Length of Marching Paces, and Number taken in a Minute.

QUESTION 1. What is the length of a marching pace, and the number taken in a minute, in the different kinds of marching ?

	No. of Paces in a Minute.	Length of each pace in Inches.	
<i>Answer.</i> In slow time :—	75	30	vi. 10
Quick time	108	30	viii. 11
The outward man of a division in wheeling } either on a <i>halted</i> or a <i>moveable</i> pivot }		30	xv. 15
All men, in Stepping out		33	xvi. 15
Stepping short		10	
Stepping back	75	30	
The outer man in wheeling back	108	30	
All men, in the double march	150	36	

Stepping out.

Q. 2. Is the stepping out ever applied to the double march ?

A. No ; only to slow and quick time. viii. 11

Resuming the usual Step.

Q. 3. When men are stepping out, what word is given to resume the usual length of step ?

A. The word, "Slow !" if the men are marching in slow time : or, "Quick !" if moving in quick time. viii. 11

Stepping Short, and Marking Time.

- ix. 11 Q. 4. What is the word for resuming the usual length of
pace, when marking time or stepping short?
x. 12 A. The word, "Forward!"
-

Caution when Stepping Out, and Stepping Short.

Q. 5. What are the men to be especially guarded against, in stepping out, and stepping short?

A. Against quickening, in the former, and slackening, in the latter case, the proper time of marching, which they are very apt to do.

Stepping Back to be in Slow Time.

- xii. 13 Q. 6. In what time must stepping back be performed?
A. Invariably in slow time, except when wheeling.
-

Command for Stepping Back.

- xii. 13 Q. 7. What is the word to be given for stepping back?
iv. 41 A. The word, "Step back—march!"
-

Angle made by a Soldier's Feet.

Q. 8. What angle do a soldier's feet form when he stands at "attention"?

A. An angle of sixty degrees.

Of Plummets.

Q. 9. When are plummets to be used?

- xvi. 16 A. Neither the battalion, nor any of its squads, ought ever
xxix. 35 to parade for drill, without the pendulum, which should be frequently used.—N.B. The several lengths of plummets, swinging the times of the different marches, are as follows; viz. :—

	For Steps in a Minute.	Length of the Plumbet in Inches & Hundredth-parts.
Slow time.	75	24.96
Quick time	108	12.03
Double march	150	6.26

A musket-ball, suspended by such a string as is not liable to

stretch, and on which are marked the different required lengths, will answer the above purpose. The length of the plummet is to be measured from the point of suspension to the *centre* of the ball.

Which Foot steps off first in Marching.

Q. 10. With which foot do all kinds of marching begin?

A. With the left foot, except in the side-step; therefore, xiv. 14
when officers have occasion to move to the front, in taking open order, to close by the side-step, &c., they should step out, and return with the left foot.

The Commands to be given for Marching.

Q. 11. When the word "MARCH!" is given singly, what does it always denote?

A. Slow time. xvi. 16

Word of Command for Quick or Double Time.

Q. 12. If it be wished to have quick or double time, what words must be given?

A. The words, "Quick," or "Double," must always precede the word "March!" xvi. 16

Changing from one Degree of Marching to another without halting.

Q. 13. May the degree of marching be changed, without halting, from one cadence to another?

A. Yes: the marching of any body may be changed from xxxii. 31
Slow to *Quick* and *Double*; and from *Quick* to *Slow* time; as well as from *Quick* to *Double*, and from *Double* to *Quick* time; but never from *Double* to *Slow* time, without a previous halt.

Words of Command for changing from one Degree of March to another.

Q. 14. What words of command are given in such cases?

A. It seems to be a general rule, that when it is wished xvi. 16
to change from a quick to a slower time, as from *Double* to xvi. 56
Quick, or from *Quick* to *Slow* march, the word, "Quick," or xxx. 4. 166

“Slow,” only is given; but in changing from *Slow* to *Quick*, or from *Quick* to *Double*, it will be found more convenient to give the words, “QUICK MARCH!” or “DOUBLE MARCH!” the “Quick” or “Double” serving as a caution; and, in these last cases, care should be taken to give the word, “Quick!” at the moment the men are planting their left feet, so that the word, “March!” may follow as they are placing their right feet on the ground; in which case they will step off, without confusion, in the time ordered, with the left feet. This rule is to be particularly observed by division leaders, when their companies, from a halted line, move successively to front or rear, in *direct* echelon; or upon any other occasion where divisions from the halt are to take up the step of those which precede them.

By Whom the Correction of Marching is to be made.

- x. 48 Q. 15. Are officers commanding divisions, or sub-divisions,
ix. 11. 94 in moving to the front or rear, to have an eye occasionally upon the marching of their men?

A. No: in all such cases division leaders are neither to look to, nor endeavour to correct, the marching of their men; which care must be entirely left to the supernumerary rank. But in field movements, the commanding officer will use his discretion, in occasionally directing the captains to fall to the rear; their places being taken by their senior subalterns.

When a single Company moves to Front or Rear.

- ii. 39 Q. 16. In moving a single company to the front or rear,
xxxii. 29 how are the men to know to which flank they should feel?

A. Whenever a single company moves in that manner, the word, “Quick march!” ought to be preceded by the words, “By the right,” “left,” or “centre,” to indicate the flank that is to direct, and to which, of course, the touch is to be preserved; and, whichever flank is ordered to direct, the division leader and his covering serjeant will place themselves there.

When Men forget the Directing or Pivot Flank.

Q. 17. Should any of the men happen to forget, while companies are united in battalion, which is the directing flank, how are they to be corrected?

A. Cases will rarely occur of such mistakes, when the companies are acting together in battalion ; but when any of the men seem to forget the pivot or directing flank, they may be reminded of it, in a low tone of voice, by the supernumeraries in the rear.

Pause between Words of Command.

Q. 18. What pause should be made between such words as, “ Halt, dress,” “ Halt, front,” &c.?

A. There should be a pause between the words, “ Halt, front,” and “ Halt, dress up ;” but none in the case of “ Halt dress,” where no dressing-up is requisite. vii. 11
xxxii. 30

When Arms must be carried at Drill, and when not.

Q. 19. When *must* the arms be carried at drill ?

A. Whenever the men *halt, form in line, or dress*, and at all times when marching in slow or quick time, unless they receive the command to slope. xxv. 27

Arms cannot be carried during the Double March.

Q. 20. May arms be *carried* in the double march ?

A. No—never: and as the men take the first step in the double march, they will slope arms, without any separate word of command. xxv. 27

What the Men are to be guarded against in the Double March.

Q. 21. What are the men to be chiefly guarded against in the double march ?

A. Against taking less than the required length of pace of thirty-six inches ; otherwise they will get into the habit of a short trot, which defeats the advantage of this degree of march altogether. The double march must never be applied to file marching, except in the formation of squares. xvi. 16
ii. 71

When Men may move with ordered and with trailed Arms.

Q. 22. May men receive a command to move with *ordered arms* ?

Abstract,
p 39.

A. Yes: they may be ordered to march a short distance without any command either to "trail" or "shoulder arms," in which case the men just raise the butts of their muskets from the ground, without moving the thumb from the front of the sling, the muzzle resting against the shoulder; and on the word "Halt!" they drop their firelocks quietly on the ground.

When the Long Trail may be used.

Abstract, 39.

Q. 23. When may the long trail be employed?

A. For the ease of the soldier, it may be employed on a line of march, or in marching to and from the place of parade, or by guards moving to and from their posts; but never when the arms are loaded, nor in field movements, where it will cause loose marching and consequent loss of distance. The *short* trail is now no longer in use upon any occasion.

Abstract, 40.

Q. 24. How are arms trailed?

A. On the word "Trail arms," the rear rank steps back a short pace, and, at the same time, the men bring their arms by two distinct motions to the horizontal position.

Abstract, 40.

Q. 25. If men are marching with trailed arms, do they shoulder them on halting?

A. No: on the word "Halt," the rear rank closes up, and the whole order arms.

Distance of Rear Ranks in Close and Open Order.

Q. 26. What is the distance of the rear rank from the front rank, in close, and in open order?

A. In the former case, it is *one* pace, and in the latter, *two* paces; and when the rear rank takes open order, *for inspection*, it is *three* paces from the front rank.

Q. 27. Is the rear rank always at *one* pace distance in close order?

A. No: whenever a close column receives the caution to deploy; when men are to wheel *forward* from the halt, or to fire, or to move to front or rear, the rear rank will close up, on the caution, in the former case, and in the latter, the proper front rank closes up after facing to the rear.

Q. 28. When does the rear rank, in these cases, resume the usual distance of *one* pace?

A. At the last flam of the drum to cease firing, the rear

rank will step back, and in marching, on the word "Halt!" the rear rank will take a *short* step, to resume its usual distance in close order.

Q. 29. Does the rear rank lock up on the caution to wheel backward?

xxxvii. 34

A. No.

How Paces are measured between Ranks and Companies.

Q. 30. How are paces between ranks or companies measured?

A. From the heels of the one rank, to the heels of the other. i. 38

Taps of the Drum to mark the Cadence in Marching.

Q. 31. May taps of the drum ever be given to mark the proper time in marching?

A. Yes: before the men step off, it is very desirable that the time should be frequently marked by taps of the drum; but never during the march; but the words, "Right, left," are never to be used. When it is intended to give the time, every squad or company will be halted at the first tap of the drum, and the men be required to give their whole attention to the proper cadence. p. 2. xxxii. 32

How Men faced to the Rear are to front.

Q. 32. How ought men faced to the rear invariably to front, on the word being given?

A. By coming to the right about. iv. 7

Men faced three quarters to the Right about, front by the left.

Q. 33. Does this rule apply to men faced three quarters to the right about?

A. No; in that case they ought to come to the left about. iv. 7

How Officers returning from the Front are to face.

Q. 34. When officers step to the front on the caution to close by the side-step, or when they take close order from

open order in line, &c., is there any rule how they should face to resume their place in the ranks?

A. It is better they should come, in these cases, to the right about.

The Inner and Outer flank of a Division.

Q. 35. Which is the inner flank of a division in any formation?

A. It is either the *pivot* flank, or that which is next to the point of appui.

Q. 36. What is the other flank called?

A. The outer flank.

The Tone of Voice in which Words of Command should be given.

Q. 37. In what tone of voice are all words of command to be given by division leaders?

i. 69 *A.* They must be given short, quick, and loud, so as to be heard and understood from right to left of a battalion in line.

When the Number of a Division should be specified.

Q. 38. How are the men of any company to know, when they receive a command from the leader of another division (which frequently occurs at drill), that it is they who are ordered?

A. Whenever it is necessary for a division leader to give a word of command to another company, or in cases where the word may not be expected by his own division, it would be well to precede it by specifying the number of the company, as No. 2, 5, or 6, "Halt," &c.

The same rule should apply in firing by divisions, as "No. 3, ready, p'sent."

Rule for Halting any Body in Motion.

Q. 39. When men in motion receive the word "Halt," do they draw back the foot that is already off the ground?

vii. 11 *A.* No: the rear foot will be brought upon a line with the advanced one, so as in all cases to finish the step which was taken when the command was given; but officers should be

careful to give the word "Halt" while one foot is raised to the front, to enable the men to plant that foot on the ground, and bring up the other to it.

Time in Doubling up and passing Obstacles.

Q. 40. In what manner should files move up, after passing obstacles in line?

A. By running up in double time.

How a single Company should fall in.

Q. 41. When a company assembles singly, for the inspection of a senior officer, or on its private parade, how are the officers and men to fall in?

A. The men will fall in at close order, and with shouldered arms; the commander takes post on the right, covered by a serjeant in the rear rank; the junior officers, and the other serjeants, as well as the drummers and pioneers, forming a supernumerary rank three paces from the rear rank. When the inspecting officer appears, ranks will be opened. See Q. 71, page 16.

i. 37

Practice for the Men on the Private Parade.

Q. 42. In what ought the men to be chiefly practised on their private parades?

A. In dressing to the front, to the rear, and in an oblique direction; in opening and closing ranks, forming threes and fours, wheeling on the flanks and centre, &c.; and to be exercised in the several motions of the firelock. But the greatest attention should be given to confirm the men in those steady and soldier-like habits under arms (the foundation of which has been laid in the original instruction of the recruit), which can be more easily enforced on the private than the general parade. Accordingly, officers and serjeants should seek such occasions for correcting the position, or sharply noticing the unsteadiness of their men, as well as for patiently explaining to them, both individually and collectively, the errors they must avoid, or those to which they are most liable in the general movements of the battalion; and they should labour incessantly to prepare their companies to act with precision when assembled in corps. And, remembering that the alacrity of the men's movements will in general cor-

xxxix. 35

i. 38

respond with *the manner* in which the words of command are given, they should carefully avoid on the private parade that drawling, careless tone (in which some officers indulge), which would not be permitted in the drill of the battalion. Nor should they, by an unnecessarily prolonged inspection of their companies, require to keep the men so long at "attention" as to tempt them to forget the indispensable steadiness that is demanded in such circumstances.

Where an Officer can best detect Errors in the Marching of his Company.

Q. 43. Whence can an officer best see whether his company (supposing he is drilling it singly) is marching straight to its front?

xxxii. 30 A. From the rear of the directing flank, where he ought often to place himself, to detect any falling back of a shoulder, or leaning back of the men.

Opening and Closing Ranks on the March.

Q. 44. How are ranks opened and closed on a march?

xxxiii. 32 A. In the one case, the rear rank marks time one pace; in the other, it steps nimbly up, until the due distance be attained; the front rank all the while marching steadily on.

Position of the Supernumerary Rank at open Order.

Q. 45. When the rear rank takes open order, does the supernumerary rank also step back?

A. The supernumerary rank preserves its relative distance from the rear rank, whether it be at close or open order; consequently it steps backward or forward with the rear rank.

Sizing of Companies.

Q. 46. How are the men of each company sized?

i. 37 A. From flanks to centre.

Of Subdivisions and Sections, and how commanded.

Q. 47. Into how many subdivisions and sections ought a company to be told off?

A. Into two subdivisions and four sections; which sections are numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, from the right of the company. i. 38
p. 125

Q. 48. Are the companies of a battalion to be invariably equalized?

A. No: it is desirable they should be occasionally exercised when of unequal strength. p. 125

Q. 49. When a company is in column of sections, how are the sections to be commanded?

A. The senior officer always places himself in charge of the leading section, unless otherwise provided for; the next in seniority takes the third section; the third officer is in charge of the fourth section from the head of the column; and if there be another officer with the company, he commands the second section; the covering serjeant placing himself behind the second file from the pivot of the subdivision or section of the senior officer. In subdivisions, the captain takes the leading subdivision, the senior subaltern the second one; the next subaltern covers the second file from the reverse flank of the rear subdivision; and if there is a third subaltern, he will cover the second file from the reverse flank of the front subdivision. i. 38
ix. 12. 13. 94

Who command the Rear Subdivisions and Sections of Companies in Column.

Q. 50. Who command the rear subdivisions or sections in the absence of officers?

A. Serjeants must be appointed to this duty; and it will be found more convenient to leave the covering serjeant, at all times, to perform his own specific duties.

Space for each File in the Ranks.

Q. 51. What space is allowed, by regulation, for each file in the ranks?

A. Twenty-one inches. i. 37

Proportion of Files to Paces.

Q. 52. What proportion does the extent of a file bear to a pace?

A. It is two-thirds of a pace, nearly.

*Proportion between the number of Files in a Division
and the number of Paces required for its Front.*

Q. 53. What proportion, then, does the number of paces required for the front of a company bear to the number of files composing it?

A. Two-thirds.

How to reduce Files to Paces, &c.

Q. 54. How then do you find the number of paces required for the extent of a company or of a battalion in line?

A. By multiplying the number of files by 2, and dividing the product by 3.

To reduce Paces to Files.

Q. 55. And how do you reduce paces to files?

A. By reversing the above rule, viz. by multiplying the given number of paces by 3, and dividing the product by 2.

What Fraction a Pace is of a Yard.

Q. 56. What fraction is a pace of a yard?

A. Five-sixths.

To reduce Paces to Yards and Yards to Paces.

Q. 57. State, then, how you reduce paces to yards, and yards to paces.

A. In the former case, by multiplying the number of paces by 5, and dividing the product by 6; and in the latter case, by multiplying the number of yards by 6, and dividing by 5.

Easiest Method of Reduction.

Q. 58. But, in these cases, is it not often better to make the division first, and to multiply afterwards?

A. Yes, it is; for example,—if it be required to ascertain the number of files necessary to occupy an extent of 44 paces, it is easier to divide 44 mentally by 2, and multiply its quotient, 22, by 3, than it is first to multiply 44 by 3, and divide its product, 132, by 2.

Examples of these Reductions.

Q. 59. Give some examples of these rules.

A. I thus find the number of paces required for a company of 45 files, viz.

$$\frac{45 \times 2}{3} = 30, \text{ the number of paces required.}$$

$$\text{or, } \frac{45}{3} \times 2 = 30.$$

I reduce 20 paces to files by

$$\frac{20 \times 3}{2} = 30 \text{ files.}$$

I reduce 45 yards to paces thus :

$$\frac{45 \times 6}{5} = 54 \text{ paces; or, } \frac{45}{5} \times 6 = 54.$$

I reduce 54 paces to yards thus :

$$\frac{54}{6} \times 5 = 45 \text{ yards.}$$

Officers shifting Flanks.

Q. 60. May division leaders shift flanks indifferently by the front or rear ?

A. No : they must shift by the *front*, when placing themselves in front of the left flank of their companies on the caution to close by the side-step ; as well as on the caution that the battalion in line will form column, or that a column will deploy into line. Also, in certain cases, when wheeling on the moveable pivot. Upon all other occasions they will shift flanks by the rear. Q. 4, p. 27 ; Q. 9, p. 97 ; Q. 16, p. 122 ; Q. 30, p. 81. x. 8. 105
xxx. 1. 163

Q. 61. On what occasions, when wheeling, does the officer shift flanks by the front ?

A. When companies wheel on the moveable pivot, from echelon, or column, into line, or from line into echelon or column, the officers will shift flanks by the *front*, if they change to the outer or wheeling flank ; but if they shift from the wheeling to the inner or pivot flank, they will move by the *rear*, and the shifting flanks, when necessary, will always take place *during* the wheel. page 242
245

In what Time Flanks are to be shifted.

Q. 62. Do officers and serjeants shift flanks, either in slow or quick time, according as the men may be moving at the moment?

A. All shifting of flanks, while the men are wheeling, should be thus made; but upon all other occasions officers and serjeants should shift in double time.

Right and Left Turn, &c.

Q. 63. When a body of men "turns to the right or left," does it wait for the word "Forward," to move on?

xxxii. 31 A. No: after occupying the time in turning that is necessary for taking *one* pace, the men will move on, in the new direction, without any further word of command; but in turning wholly, or three-quarters, to the right about, or left about, they will mark time, till the additional word "Halt," or "Forward," be given.

The Time occupied in Turning to the Right (or Left) about, or three-quarters to the Right (or Left) about.

Q. 64. How much time is occupied in turning in this last case?

xxxii. 31 A. The time prescribed for taking *three* paces.

Precautions to be used when a Company is named as the Base of a new Formation, &c.

Q. 65. Are any precautions to be taken by the commander of any division which is ordered to be wheeled, for the purpose of becoming the base of a new line?

A. The officer of the named company will, if necessary, immediately wheel it the required number of paces; and placing himself on the caution, at the point of appui, will dress it on the two serjeants that post themselves in front of the flanks of his company, and on the distant battalion point.
Q. 9, p. 122.

The most important Movement of the Battalion.

Q. 66. Which is the most important and most difficult of

all movements, and to which the battalion should be incessantly accustomed?

A. The march in line.

Piling Arms.

Q. 67. State the manner in which a company are to quit arms, after having piled them for the purpose of being drilled without arms.

A. The company, after having piled arms, remain faced to the right; upon the caution "Prepare to quit arms," the ranks will each take one side-step outwards, the front rank coming to the front; and on the word "Quick march," the front rank will take two paces forward, and the rear rank will march round the right of the arms, and cover the front rank in succession.

Unpiling Arms.

Q. 68. State how the men are to resume their former position, for the purpose of unpiling arms.

A. The company will receive the caution, "Prepare to stand to your arms;" upon which the front rank will face to the right about, while the rear rank faces to the right; and upon the word "Quick march," the rear rank will step off and resume its former situation, one side-step from the muskets; and when the rear rank has passed, the front rank will take two paces forward, and face to the left; the word "Unpile arms" will then be given.

Q. 69. When companies take open order in column, for the purpose of being inspected by a superior officer, how are the officers posted?

A. Whether the right or left of the column is in front, the captain will place himself in front of the *right* flank of his company, his covering serjeant aligning himself with the front rank *on the right*; and the supernumerary officers will arrange themselves in front, as when marching past in open order.

Post of the Music, Drummers, &c. during the Evolutions of the Battalion.

Q. 70. Where are the drummers and band of music to be posted, during the evolutions of the battalion?

ix. 15. 95 *A.* Where the battalion is acting singly, they may be collected together, and remain detached from it altogether ; but where it is united to other corps, the music, drummers, &c. in open column, will wheel with, and remain closed up to the rear of, their respective divisions. In column, at half or quarter distance, they may occasionally, if there is space, move by threes on the reverse flank ; but they are on no occasion to increase the intervals between battalions.

Q. 71. When the battalion is paraded for a general inspection of necessaries, what words of command are to be given ?

i. 38 *A.* The battalion will be formed in open column of companies, will pile arms, and the men stand in front of them, as directed in Q. 67. The command will then be given, "FOR INSPECTION, REAR RANKS TAKE OPEN ORDER—MARCH." "FROM THE LEFT EXTEND—QUICK MARCH." The pivot-men standing fast, the remainder of both ranks will extend by the side-step. After seeing that they are properly dressed, the commanding officer will give the word, "UNPACK ;" when the whole will instantly take off their knapsacks, and arrange their necessaries in the manner prescribed by the regimental order.

Q. 72. May field movements be executed indifferently, with fixed or unfixed bayonets ?

vii. 3. 81 *A.* No : all field movements and firings are to be performed with *fixed* bayonets, except when troops are acting as light infantry.

SECTION II.

ON DRESSING.

Principles of Dressing.

Q. 1. State the true principles of dressing.

xvii. 17 *A.* They chiefly depend upon each man being able just to distinguish the lower part of the face of the second man beyond him ; officers remembering that it is the faces of the men, and not their breasts or feet, that form the line of dressing.

Turn of the Head and Eyes in Dressing.

Q. 2. Are men allowed to look to the right or left in dressing?

A. Yes: each individual may cast his eyes to the point to which he is ordered to dress, with a slight turn of the head. On the word "Eyes front," heads are to be brought round together to the front; but, in marching, the dressing is to be preserved entirely by the touch. iii. 5
xvii. 18

Faults of the Men in Dressing.

Q. 3. What are the faults in dressing against which the men are to be cautioned?

A. Against passing the line; pressing the head forward, and keeping the body back; and pains should be taken to check a practice, which many men have (on being called to) of only leaning forward or backward the body, instead of moving the feet; by which means, on resuming their natural position, they are out of the proper line. xvii. 18

Precautions of the Officers in Dressing.

Q. 4. What precautions are to be observed by officers in dressing their men upon all occasions?

A. They ought to determine, or suppose a line, on which their men are to be formed; and for this purpose take as their object the distant flank man, or a point beyond such flank; and after carefully dressing the first two or three men, they must insist on the dressing being gradual and progressive from the fixed point towards the flank one; and the commander must take care that in dressing his men, his own person, or his eyes at least, are in the true line he is giving; which cannot be the case if his head be, as it often is, a pace in front of the line of the men's faces. And officers ought to take care to halt their men, upon all occasions, in such a manner, that the dressing shall be forward instead of backward. xviii. 19

Rule for the Internal Dressing of Divisions.

Q. 5. What rule is to be observed by officers in the internal dressing of their companies?

A. It is to be made with as much alacrity and as little noise viii. 1. 87

as possible ; indeed, with the exception of the words of command, which ought always to be given short, quick, and loud, (section i. 35,) the men should be corrected in such a tone of voice as may not be heard beyond the company.

Words of Command in Dressing.

Q. 6. In dressing, is it proper to give the words "Eyes right," or "Eyes left?"

xviii. 17. 18

A. No ; such a command is sometimes given to a squad of recruits ; but it is in general better to give the words "Right (or left) dress," or "Right (or left) forward (or backward) dress."

Precautions in Dressing Divisions upon Intermediate Points.

Q. 7. What precautions are officers to take in dressing their divisions upon serjeants that are placed as intermediate points in the formation of lines, &c. ?

x. 11. 106

A. Whenever divisions are brought up into line at the double march, they must be halted *two* full paces short of their object ; and, if in quick time, *one* pace behind the intended line, to which they will always dress up instead of dressing back ; if the companies march to the rear to form line, their *proper* front rank must be allowed to pass the front rank of the formed line *one* pace, as above, before the "Halt front" is given.

Dressing of the Line.

Q. 8. How is the battalion in line dressed after a halt ?

viii. 4. 88

A. The command will be given "POINTS TO THE FRONT;" upon which the regimental colour, the captain of the right centre company, and the two officers on the left of the line, will step forward any given number of paces facing to the left, and will be immediately aligned by a field officer from the left ; on his giving the word "Steady," the captains of the other companies will move to the front, and cover to the left, on the points which have thus been prepared. The commanding officer then gives, "BATTALION RIGHT FORWARD DRESS—QUICK MARCH;" when the officers "halt dress" their respective companies, resuming their proper places on the word "STEADY" from the commanding officer.

In this mode of dressing, every officer is to move his own person as little as possible, and to dress his men clear of the inner shoulder of the officer in his front.

N.B. In brigade, officers face towards the battalion of formation.

Manner of Dressing Divisions after being wheeled into Line.

Q. 9. When any halted column is wheeled into line, from what points do officers dress their divisions?

A. Invariably from the second file—from the flank of the company towards which their *wheeling* flank moves from column.

viii. 2. 88

Examples of it.

Q. 10. Suppose then a column of companies right in front is ordered "RIGHT BACKWARD WHEEL INTO LINE," to which flank do the commanders incline during the wheel, and whence do they dress their companies?

A. They incline towards the left flank of their companies, and after dressing them from the second file of the company on their left, return by the rear to their proper place in line.

When a Column of Subdivisions wheels backwards into Line.

Q. 11. If a column of subdivisions, or sections, right in front, were in like manner to wheel "right backwards into line," whence ought commanders of divisions to dress their men?

A. They ought to incline towards, and dress their men from, the left of the *whole* company, as before.

SECTION III.

OF POINTS OF APPUI, AND OF FORMATION OR DRESSING
—OF THE BASE LINE, AND OF INTERMEDIATE POINTS
—AND OF COVERING.

*Points to be ascertained before any Formation of
Straight Lines.*

Q. 1. What two necessary points must always be ascertained, previously to any formation in a straight line?

vi. 2. 81 A. The points of appui, and of formation or dressing.

Meaning of Points of Appui and Dressing.

Q. 2. What is meant by the points of appui and formation?

vi. 3. 81 A. The appui is the point at which one flank of the body is placed; and the point of formation is in the opposite direction, being that on which the body is dressed.

Lines of Formation need not always be straight.

Q. 3. Is it necessary that all lines of formation should be straight?

vi. 2. 81 A. No; in formations of defence the lines occupied may be curved, and following the advantages of the ground; but in those of attack the lines must be straight, otherwise the troops in advancing will inevitably fall into confusion.

*Look and Alignment of the Soldier in Dressing-up
successively into Line.*

Q. 4. When divisions form up successively into line, is there any general rule respecting the look and alignment of the soldier, and the situation of officers commanding companies?

A. Yes: the look and alignment of the soldier are invariably v. 3. 4. 81 towards the point of appui; and as the correction of dressing is always from that point, towards the opposite hand, officers commanding divisions must be on the flank next the general point of appui.

Example of the Points of Appui and Formation.

Q. 5. Suppose a close column of divisions were ordered to deploy on the left division, which point in this case would be the general appui for the future line?

A. The left of the left division, and the distant points upon the right of the intended line, would be the points of formation.

How Men should face when employed as Points on which to Cover or Dress.

Q. 6. How should men on foot face who are intended as points upon which to cover or dress?

A. They should face towards the point of appui, and vii. 3. 84 exactly cover each other.

Q. 7. If officers or men are mounted, how do they act as points?

A. The dressing being to be made, in such a case, upon vii. 3. 84 the horses' heads, the horses will stand perpendicularly to the intended line or column.

When mounted Officers or Dragoons are obliged to dismount.

Q. 8. If officers are obliged, from the unsteadiness of their horses, to dismount, in performing this duty, how do they place themselves?

A. Precisely as they would do without their horses, which vii. 3. 84 they hold with the *outer* hand.

How Arms are to be carried when Men are employed as Points.

Q. 9. When serjeants and privates are taking up points, how are they to carry their arms?

A. They are to recover them in the following manner, viz.,

M. & Platoon
Exercise,
p. 26.

the fusil is to be raised with the left hand, the small of the butt being seized with the right, and the piece brought before the body, the barrel to the front, the left hand on the butt.

Exceptions to Points facing the Appui.

Q. 10. But are there not occasions when serjeants do not face the point of appui in taking up distances, or giving points upon which to dress?

xxx. 164 A. Yes: in all cases, when distances are taken for companies or subdivisions in *column*, covering serjeants will have the same front as the men, instead of presenting a shoulder to the line of men.

Which Flank of a new Formation should be first determined.

Q. 11. Whether ought the outer or inner flank of a new formation to be first determined?

vii. 4. 85 A. In general it will be better to determine the inner one, for if the outer flank is taken first, time is lost in directing the shifting of the inner one before it is truly aligned.

Point of Appui in Line.

Q. 12. Which is the point of appui to which the men are to feel, and upon which they are to dress, when the battalion is in line?

viii. 3. 88 A. The centre of the battalion.

The Base Line.

Q. 13. What is meant by the *base* of a formation?

A. The real or imaginary line between the two first points that mark the line of formation.

Example of it.

Q. 14. Give an instance of it.

A. If a close column right in front were ordered to deploy on the front division, the line of that division would be *the base*.

Base Points to be fixed on the Caution to form Line.

Q. 15. When the caution is given for the formation of a new line, are not base points to be immediately fixed?

A. Yes. Two serjeants will place themselves, upon *all* occasions of the formation of lines, in front of each flank file of the company named as the base, facing the point of appui. vii. 5. 7. 85

How the Serjeants for Points face when a Central Company is the Base.

Q. 16. If serjeants are in such cases to face the point of appui, how ought they to face if a central or any other than a flank company is named as the base of formation?

A. They will face each other, the centre of such company being then the point of appui.

Serjeants to be named for the Duty of taking Base Points.

Q. 17. Ought not serjeants to be named on the private parade for the duty of taking up base points?

A. Yes. Two serjeants of each company, but especially of the two centre and flank companies, should be prepared for the duty of taking base points. But in the absence of a sufficient number of serjeants, their places should be supplied by intelligent men from the flanks of the rear rank of companies: and when any formation is to be made on the two centre subdivisions, or divisions, in addition to their covering serjeants, the front-rank centre serjeant between the colours will step out to the front, and facing *to the left*, give a point. xxiii. 153

Other Intermediate Points.

Q. 18. What other intermediate points are placed during the formation of a line by successive divisions?

A. A serjeant will run out from each company as it arrives within twenty paces of the line, and will cover at the distance of the division. vii. 5. 85

When Points resume their place in Line.

Q. 19. When do the persons acting as *base* or intermediate points move?

- ii. 5. 85 *A.* Each resumes his proper place in the line, as soon as the third company from him receives the command, "Eyes front."

These Points to be kept clear in Dressing.

Q. 20. Is it not essential that all these intermediate points should be kept clear in dressing upon them?

- vii. 6. 86 *A.* Certainly; and this is the reason why divisions must *dress-up* to them upon all occasions.

A Serjeant from each Company sufficient to take Points for Subdivisions.

Q. 21. When formations to line are made from subdivisions or sections, is it necessary to have a serjeant for each subdivision to take up *intermediate* points?

- vii. 8. 86 *A.* No; the covering serjeant of each company is sufficient.

When Serjeants run out to mark Distances in open Column.

Q. 22. When a line changes its front in any direction by means of the open column, at what period do the covering serjeants run out, and what do they mark?

- vii. 8. 86 *A.* They will run out when their respective divisions are within twenty paces of the new alignment, to mark their distance, and to cover at the *proper* pivot flank upon the point of formation.

Covering.

Q. 23. When is a man certain he is covering correctly?

A. When he can only see the individual immediately before him: but if this last does not entirely conceal the person of the second coverer from him, he should take care that he does not see more of the one shoulder than of the other.

Caution in Covering to the Rear.

Q. 24. What precaution is particularly necessary in covering from the rear?

A. In covering from the rear, where it is necessary to come afterwards to the right-about, as in forming from line, a

column in front of the left division, serjeants should face about very carefully lest they lose their covering.

Coverers and Pivots are not to move after being corrected.

Q. 25. Are coverers allowed to move after taking up their points?

A. Neither coverers nor pivots, after being once corrected, must afterwards move upon any pretence, unless so ordered by a mounted officer; the only exceptions are the pivots of the two flank companies, who may close to either hand, under the direction of their own officers, to regain any distance that may have been lost by their own or the contiguous company.

The smallest Number of Points upon which it is possible to Cover.

Q. 26. What is the smallest number of points upon which it is possible to cover?

A. Two points.

The Point from which Covering is to be corrected.

Q. 27. From what point is the covering of serjeants or others to be corrected?

A. Coverers will always be corrected, whether in line or column, from the flanks, or from the base of formation, upon the flank points of the battalion.

SECTION IV.

CLOSING BY THE SIDE-STEP—THE DIAGONAL MARCH.

Word of Command to Close.

Q. 1. What is the word of command to close by the side-step?

A. The word "Right (or left) close, quick march."

What is done on the Word, "Quick March."

Q. 2. What is done by the men on the word "Quick march?"

xi. 12 A. They turn their eyes and keep the touch to the flank to
xxxix. 35 which the closing is ordered; and carry their right feet, if to
the right, to the left feet of their neighbour, and *vice versa* if
closing to the left.

Knees not to be bent in Closing.

Q. 3. In closing by the side-step are the knees to be bent as in other kinds of marching?

xi. 12 A. No; except when closing on rough ground, when they
xvi. 16 must necessarily be bent.

Rule for Companies Closing or Opening to correct Distances in the Line of Battalion.

Q. 4. What is the rule for closing or opening by the side-step to correct distances in the line of battalion?

iii. 41 A. As the closing or opening of companies in battalion to
viii. 3. 88 regain distances is always to be made to, or from, the centre,
from whence, as the point of appui, the dressing is to be taken,
the division leaders in the left wing will, on the caution, take
three paces in quick time *straight* forward, and face to the
right about; while those in the right wing will step nimbly
along the front, and placing themselves, in like manner, in
front of the left file of their companies, wait for the word
"QUICK MARCH," when they will move in the same direc-
tion with their men; and on their companies being "HALTED"
and dressed, they will return by the rear to their proper places,
which their covering serjeants will have kept for them.

Closing the whole Battalion.

Q. 5. Is the same rule applicable to the closing of the whole battalion in line?

A. No; when the whole battalion in line is ordered to close by the side-step, the division leaders will place themselves, on the caution, in front of that flank to which the closing is to be made, and whence the dressing is to be taken.

When Men close a given number of Paces, "Halt" is not given.

Q. 6. When men are ordered to take a *specified* number of paces to the right or left by the side-step, is it necessary to give the word "Halt?"

A. No; the men ought to halt without any command, as soon as the given number of paces has been taken.

Q. 7. After closing or opening by the side-step to correct distances in the line, whether is the command "Halt dress" given, or "Halt" only?

A. "Halt" only, as the company ought not to have lost its dressing, unless the distance lost has been considerable.

Commanders of Companies do not quit the Ranks when a Column closes by the Side-step.

Q. 8. When the number of side-steps is specified, is it necessary for the commanders of companies to step to the front?

A. No; when one or more companies in line are ordered to close a given number of paces to the right or left, officers will not move to the front; nor *in any case*, when a company in column, or a whole column, takes ground to the right or left by the side-step. iii. 41

A Point upon which to dress in closing by the Side-step.

Q. 9. How is a point upon which to dress preserved when companies in line close by the side-step?

A. When one or more companies on either flank of the battalion are cautioned to move by the side-step to the *outward* hand to recover distances, a serjeant from the flank company will step out, and, placing himself in the line of the men, and at as great a distance from the flank as the opening may require, will remain there, as a point on which the moved companies may be dressed; after which he resumes his proper place. On the contrary,—if the closing be ordered to the *inner* hand, the covering serjeant on the flank of the battalion will place himself in line with the front rank, and stand fast till the closing and dressing be completed.

The Command for the Diagonal March.

- Q. 10. What word is given for the diagonal march?
 xxiii. 25 A. If the body is halted, it receives the word "Right (or left) half-face," "Quick march;" or if it be already in motion, the word "Right (or left) half-turn" is given.
-

And for resuming the original Front.

- Q. 11. When it is intended to resume the original front, what command must be given?
 xxiii. 25 A. The command "Halt front," or "Front turn."
-

The Pivot Flank in the Diagonal March.

- Q. 12. Which is the pivot flank during the diagonal march?
 xxiii. 25 A. Invariably the outer flank.
-

Division Leaders do not shift to the Pivot Flank.

Q. 13. When a body gains ground to a flank by the diagonal march, do division leaders shift to the outer or pivot flank?

A. No; they act in this case, as they do when a body gains ground to a flank, by "Sections right," or "Sections left."—Q. 21, page 136.

How to correct the Diagonal March.

Q. 14. When may you be certain that men are moving accurately in the diagonal march?

Q. When the outward man marches with the usual length of step (thirty inches) perpendicularly to his new front, and the other men do not allow their right arms (if moving to the right) to get quite to the centre of the men's backs that precede them in echelon; in which position their right feet will just clear the left feet of the preceding files; the rear rank covering, and locking well up.

Movement of the Rear Rank in the Diagonal March.

Q. 15. How ought the rear-rank men to move, in relation to their file leaders, in the diagonal march?

A. In moving diagonally to the right, the left feet of the

rear-rank men ought just to clear the right feet of their respective file leaders ; while, in moving to the left, the reverse of this rule ought to be observed.

The Angle made with the Direction of the former Front.

Q. 16. What angle does a man make in the diagonal march, with the perpendicular direction of his original front ?

A. An angle of forty-five degrees.

The Distance gained to the Front and a Flank.

Q. 17. How much more ground is gained to a flank, than to the front, by the diagonal march, and to what degree of wheel is it equal ?

A. Any body moving diagonally, gains as much, both to its flank and front, as if it were marching in an echelon of one-eighth of a circle from its original front ; and the angle it makes with that front, in both cases, being forty-five degrees, it follows that the same distance precisely will be gained in both directions.

The proportional Distance gained to the Front and Flank.

Q. 18. What will that distance be in proportion to the diagonal march ?

A. For every ten paces that a body marches in a diagonal direction, it will gain very nearly seven paces direct to its flank, and the same distance precisely direct to its front.

SECTION V.

OF AIDS AND BATTALION POINTS.

How Aids are furnished.

Q. 1. How are aids furnished for the service of battalion points ?

A. A few intelligent drummers ought to be trained to the duty of aids, or battalion points; and while so employed, they should be supplied with little flags, which are to be held up in front of their bodies.

How they are distributed.

Q. 2. How are those aids to be distributed?

Q. While the battalion is in line, two of them will remain in rear of the right, two in rear of the left, and two behind the right centre division, dressed with the supernumerary rank. In open half or quarter distance columns, they will be in rear of the above-mentioned companies; and in close column, they will be in the rear of the whole column, arranged as they are in line.

How Aids are placed to mark the Prolongation of Lines.

Q. 3. How are they to be placed when they mark the prolongation of a new line formed on a flank?

A. In such a case, one of the two aids on the flank most distant from the base of the formation will run out, and, endeavouring to fix the point where that flank of the battalion will rest, will place himself a few paces beyond it, facing the point of appui, and covering the serjeants placed at the base of the formation; there he will remain perfectly steady, after being corrected, till the new line is formed, when he will return to the rear of his company.

Post of the Aids when a Central Division is the Base of Formation.

Q. 4. How are the aids placed, if the new line is to be formed upon any division, except either of the two flank companies?

A. An aid will run out from each of the flanks of the battalion, and, facing the point of appui, will cover as before, in such a manner that his *inner* shoulder shall be in a line with the front rank of the line of battalion, by his covering correctly the two serjeants placed at the base of the new line.

Position of Aids in passing by Threes.

Q. 5. How are the aids to be employed should the companies pass by threes to front or rear?

A. The two aids nearest the directing company will run out forty or fifty paces from the column, and thirty or forty paces the one behind the other, and place themselves exactly in front of the covering serjeant of the directing company, who will march steadily upon them. vii. 3. 84

In the Advance of Columns, Echellons, &c.

Q. 6. State in what manner the aids are to be used in advances in column, &c.

A. Upon the caution that the battalion will advance or retire in column, close, open, or double,—or by double-files from the centre,—or by the diagonal march—or in echellon,—the two aids of the company that leads will run out, as before, and, facing the new front of the battalion, will place their *inner* shoulders in a line with the outer shoulder of the commander of the leading division; and when he reaches the nearest aid, that aid will run as fast as possible, and place himself, in like manner, thirty or forty paces in rear of the former one, and the two aids will thus continue to give points until the battalion is halted. But when the men are previously in motion, it is presumed that aids will be unnecessary. vii. 3. 84

When a Column changes Front and Wings.

Q. 7. Of what assistance are the aids when a column is ordered to change its front and wings, by the wheel, and countermarch of subdivisions round the centre?

A. Upon the caution, an aid, belonging to each of the two flank companies, will place himself close in front of the centre of the front and rear divisions, facing the pivot flank of the column, and remain there till the formation is completed by the words “FRONT, DRESS.” xxxiv. 1. 171

If the front is changed on the march, the aids will hasten to take their post, in like manner, when the subdivisions begin to wheel, and disappear on the word “FRONT, TURN!” after the movement is finished.

N.B. No officer, except a mounted officer, can interfere with the battalion aids, or with any individuals placed as points, except with those acting for his own company.

But it is desirable that where there is a sufficient number of mounted officers, the necessity of aids on foot should be superseded by their activity.

When mounted officers therefore act as aids, the following rules are to be observed, viz. :—

1. On the caution that the battalion will advance or retire in column, whether double or single, in echellon, by the passage of companies by threes or files, or by double files from the centre, the field officer attached to the leading wing, and the adjutant, will gallop forward forty or fifty paces from the directing division, and the same distance from each other (the adjutant being always the more distant), to mark the new alignment, and as the head of the column or echellon approaches, they will act as in Question 6, p. 31.

2. On the caution to form line on either of the flank companies, from column, whether close or open, or from echellon, whether oblique or direct, or from a double column *to a flank*, the adjutant will mark the outward or distant flank of the new line.

3. But if the line is to be formed on any except a flank company, the two field officers will mark the outward flanks. When there is only one field officer, the adjutant will always attach himself in these cases to the left wing.

4. In changing front to the rear on the centre, the two field officers will give the outward points, without exchanging places, which will be done along the rear after the formation has been made.

5. When the battalion in column is to change its direction, the field officer next the leading division will mark the point of entry, the adjutant marking the distant point in prolongation of the new alignment.

6. When a close or quarter-distance column is to open from the front or rear, the junior field officer and the adjutant, in the former case, and the senior field officer and the adjutant, in the latter case, will mark the points for the companies to march upon.

7. In the formation of all columns, the field officer who is not employed in giving points, will attend to the covering of division leaders and covering serjeants.—See Questions 7, 8, p. 21.

SECTION VI.

OF THE FORMATION, &c. OF FILES—OF THREES AND
FOURS.

*What the Men are to be guarded against in moving by
Files.*

Q. 1. What are men to be particularly cautioned to avoid in marching by files?

A. Against stepping short, or looking down, or leaning backward, or having their knees bent; and each man will cover so exactly, that the head of the man immediately before him may conceal the heads of all the others in his front. xviii. 20

Sections of Threes.

Q. 2. How are sections of threes formed?

A. When the company, either halted or in motion, is to move to a flank by threes it will receive the command, "Threes right (or left) shoulders forward, quick march, forward," and the only exception to this rule will be when pivots are required to be accurately dressed, or when the alignment of the company is to be preserved; in this case the command will be "Threes on the right (or left) backwards wheel, quick march," "Halt dress." xix. 58

In re-forming company, the command will be "Right (or left) shoulders forward—forward," if the march is to be continued; otherwise, "Halt dress."

When pivots are required to be accurately dressed, the command will be "Right (or left) wheel into line, quick march," "Halt dress."

Q. 3. When is the word "Forward," or "Halt," given in these cases?

A. Just as the outer men of threes are completing their third pace. xix. 59

Q. 4. Should there be odd men in telling off by threes, how are they to be placed?

A. Should the telling off by threes leave either one or two files over, they will be placed on the right of the left section of threes, which is always to be complete. If there be one file xix. 59

over, on the word "Threes, shoulders forward," the front-rank man wheels up, and places himself in rear of the pivot flank of the section in front of him; his rear-rank man placing himself in the rear of its reverse flank, both men locking up: but if the odd file be a blank one, the reverse flank of the preceding section must necessarily remain uncovered. If there be two files over, they wheel as ordered, and form a section of themselves, covering the outward flanks of the section preceding them; but if one of these two files be a blank file, the three men will form a single rank, the two front-rank men covering the flanks of the preceding section, and the rear-rank man stepping up between them.

Q. 5. What command is given to change the direction of a column of threes?

xix. 60 A. The same as in file-marching, viz., "Right wheel,"—"Left wheel."

Q. 6. How is a company formed to the front from sections of threes?

xix. 60 A. On the word "Front form company," the leading three will mark time, the remainder will make a half-turn to the proper hand, and moving up to their proper places in line, will mark time till the word "Forward," or "Halt," is given.

Q. 7. Is there not another method of forming to the front from threes?

A. Yes; without marking time. On the command "Without marking time front form company (or line)," the leading three will march steadily forward, and the remainder will run up in double time in succession into line. See Q. 30, 31, p. 39.

Q. 8. How are subdivisions or sections formed from threes?

xix. 60 A. By ordering "Right (or left) turn, left (or right) wheel;" and when in file, "Front form subdivisions (or sections)," upon which the leading files of subdivisions (or sections) will mark time, the remainder turn their bodies a whole face to the proper hand, and wheel in subdivisions or sections to the right or left as may be required. During these formations the company leader will move by *the front* to his proper station.

Q. 9. What ought the company to be practised to when marching to a flank in threes?

xix. 61 A. To turn to the right and left, and to the right about, wheeling forward, afterwards rear rank in front. The company may also be inverted by wheeling the threes forward on their reverse flank, as the inversion can at any moment be corrected.

Which ought to be the Blank File in a Company.

Q. 10. When the telling off leaves an odd man in the company, which ought to be the blank file when the company is standing two deep?

A. It ought to be the *fourth* file from the left, upon all occasions when there is an odd number of men in the ranks. i. 38

Q. 11. Is there any general rule for the arrangement of files in forming four deep?

A. Yes; the *Right* files always stand fast, the left files doubling up.

Forming Four Deep.

Q. 12. State how four deep is formed.

A. On the caution "Form four deep," (the company being told off from the right by alternate files,) the rear rank will step back one pace, and on the word "March," the left files will double behind the right files, by taking one distinct pace to the rear with the left feet, and another to the right with the right feet. v. 42

Four Deep to the Rear.

Q. 13. How is four deep formed to the rear?

A. On the caution, "Rear form four deep," the rear rank steps back as before, and, on the word "March," the whole go to the right about, and the left files will then double in the *proper* rear of the right files, as before, by taking one step to their *present* front with their right feet, and another to the left with their left feet. v. 42

Four Deep to the Right.

Q. 14. How is four deep formed to the right?

A. On the word "March" being given after the caution, the whole face to the right; and the left files at the same instant form on the right of the right files, by taking one step to the right with the right feet, and another to the front with the left feet. v. 42

Four Deep to the Left.

Q. 15. How do you form four deep to the left?

- v. 43 *A.* The rear rank having stepped back on the caution, the whole face to the left, and the left files, at the same instant, form on the left of the right files, by taking one pace to the left with the left feet, and one pace to the rear with the right feet.

Two Deep from Four Deep.

Q. 16. How is two deep formed from four deep?

- v. 43 *A.* Upon the word "Front!" the files move up to their respective intervals into line, the rear rank immediately closing on the front rank; but the distinctness of the different steps necessary for this purpose must always be observed; that is, the left files of both ranks will take their side-step together to the left, and their step with the right feet, to the front, into line with the right files; then the whole rear rank will take its step forward with the left feet, to close to the usual distance from the front rank. The word "Halt!" will precede the word "Front!" if the men are in motion.

File-marching from Four Deep—and Four Deep from File-marching.

Q. 17. May not file-marching be adopted from four deep, and *vice versa*?

- v. 43 *A.* Yes, by the files leading out in their proper order, upon the word "Form two deep;" and, at the word "Re-form four deep," resuming their proper places.

Q. 18. Ought the full length of pace of 30 inches to be taken by the rear rank, on the caution to form four deep?

A. No; it ought to be a short step of 20 inches, whether it be to the front or rear, or to the right or left.

Q. 19. Where are the commanders of companies and the supernumeraries to be in marching by files, and by threes and and fours?

- ix. 13. 94 *A.* The commander is on the inner flank of the leading file
vi. 43 or section, and his covering serjeant leading the front rank in files and fours, and the centre of sections of threes. The supernumeraries are on the reverse flank.

Who is answerable for the Distance, &c. in moving by Threes or Fours.

Q. 20. Whether is it the officer, or covering serjeant, who

is responsible for the distance, &c., when a column of companies marches to a flank by threes or fours, or in file?

A. It is the covering serjeant, under the direction of the commander of the company; therefore the centre files of threes must cover the covering serjeant exactly, the outward files feeling to the centre.

In moving by fours, the files must feel to the inner flank.

Precautions to be taken in moving into Column by the Flank March of Threes.

Q. 21. What precaution are the commanders of companies particularly to take, in moving into a new column or line by the flank march of threes?

A. They ought to recollect, that in moving by threes to the left on a left pivot, or to the right on a right pivot, they must give the word "Shoulders forward," when within the distance of a section of threes, to enable it to wheel into line; but when the company, in its flank march by threes, is to pass its pivot point, "Shoulders forward" must be given when the front rank of the last section has reached that point.

Passing by Files to Front and Rear.

Q. 22. When the battalion in line advancing or retiring is to pass any impediment to front or rear, what command is given?

A. "From the RIGHT (OR LEFT) of companies pass by files **xvi. 133.** to the FRONT (OR REAR), RIGHT (OR LEFT) TURN, LEFT (OR RIGHT) WHEEL."

Advancing in Double Files.

Q. 23. May not a company advance in double files from the centre?

A. Yes: after the caution, "Advance in double files from the centre," the command will be given, "Subdivisions inwards face;" upon which the two centre files disengage by the side-step, bringing the shoulders forward at the word "Quick march," and lead straight to the front, the front and rear rank men in line, and the supernumeraries moving in single files between the subdivisions, which must leave space for them. —Plate xiii. **vii. 43.**

Q. 24. What command is given if the company is already advancing?

A. The command, "Subdivisions inwards turn, right and left wheel."

Q. 25. Where are the division leader and his covering serjeant in advancing in double files?

A. The officer and his covering serjeant will lead, as in a movement in single files, on that flank which *is to be* the pivot one.

Q. 26. How is the company formed to the front from double files?

A. On the word "Front form company," the leading files mark time and close in, their rear-rank men falling to the rear; the remainder turn their bodies a whole face outwards and wheel inwards, looking to the outward flank and feeling to the centre; as soon as the quarter-circle is completed, the word "Forward," or "Halt," is given.

Q. 27. May a company marching in double files form to a flank?

A. Yes. If to the right flank, the commanding officer will order "RIGHT FORM COMPANY," when the division leader will give the word "Right subdivision halt front;" the remainder of the company march on in files, carrying arms, and form on the left of the halted subdivision in succession, halting as they come into line.

The Flank from which the Distance is kept in passing by Files.

Q. 28. In passing by files, either to the front or rear, from which flank are the dressing and distances of companies to be preserved?

xvi. 133. *A.* From that company which, were the battalion halted and fronted, would be the leading company in the column, unless some other company is named.

Care in moving Four Deep to a Flank.

Q. 29. What are officers particularly to remember in moving their companies four deep to a flank?

A. When they move to the left on a left pivot, one file requires to come to the front on the pivot flank, on the word "Halt front;" division leaders, therefore, should be careful to halt their men *one pace short* of the pivot

point; and should they be moving to the right, on a left pivot, they will allow them to pass the point one pace.

Passing by Threes to Front or Rear.

Q. 30. May not companies pass to front or rear, by sections of threes, as well as by files?

A. Yes; and in these movements the men should be practised to "Front form line," both by the line marking time, and by continuing the march during the formation. xvi. 2. 134

Q. 31. How is line thus formed?

A. If it be intended to form on the march, the command will be given, "WITHOUT MARKING TIME, ON THE LEADING SECTIONS OF THREES FRONT FORM LINE;" on which the leading sections of each company move forward in quick time, and all the others making a half-turn outwards, will run up in succession into line. But should the only command given be "ON THE LEADING SECTIONS FRONT FORM LINE," the leading sections will mark time, and the others making a half-turn outwards, will move into line in quick time, afterwards receiving the word "HALT," or "FORWARD."

Q. 32. May line be formed to the front from file-marching without marking time?

A. Yes: the leading files march steadily forward, and the remainder of each company, instead of turning outwards and wheeling into line, will run up by files in succession. xvi. 2. 134

Q. 33. Where are the division leaders while their companies are forming line to the front?

A. In all cases of this kind, whether by files or threes, if the *left* of the company is leading, the officer will shift to the right flank by *the front* during the formation; if the right is the leading flank, he will at once take his proper post in the line.

How a Second Line relieves a First Line.

Q. 34. How is a battalion in the first line relieved by one in the second line?

A. The battalion in the second line marches up within twelve paces of the line to be relieved, when the latter receives the command "PASS BY FILES TO THE REAR, RIGHT FACE RIGHT WHEEL—QUICK MARCH," and proceeds to the rear, some files in the second line giving way. xvi. 3. 134

Q. 35. How is the relief made when the second line does not advance?

xvi. 4. 135 A. The first line retires, and when within twelve paces of the second line, receives the command to pass by files to the rear.—N.B. It is a general rule, that the line advancing to relieve is never broken, the line to be relieved in all cases filing through it.

Q. 36. If an open column of companies, say right in front, be moving by files to a flank, suppose the right flank, how do they form to the right or right about?

xx. 61 A. On the word "ON THE LEADING FILES to the RIGHT (or right about), FORM COLUMN (or line), the front-rank man of the leading file of each company will turn to the right (or right about), take one pace to the front and halt, the rear-rank man moving round and covering. The remainder of the company will instantly carry arms, if they previously had them sloped, and will form on the left of the right file by files in succession; on the same principle a column moving to the left will form to the left, or left about.

Q. 37. Where are the division leaders during these last movements?

A. They will remain on the leading flank, to assist the formation; and on its completion will shift, if necessary, by the rear to their proper flank.

Q. 38. How does a column moving by threes to a flank form to the right or left?

A. It will first form files by the word "THREES RIGHT (or left) TURN, LEFT (or right) WHEEL," and then proceed as already directed.

Especial care of the Leading Files of Companies in forming to the Right, &c.

Q. 39. What should be the especial care of the leading files of companies in all these cases?

A. The instant they come to the new front they should quickly cover upon the pivot men of the companies in their front, if in column; or look to the point of appui, and quickly take up their dressing from it, if in line, which will prevent a great deal of *shuffling* afterwards; and the mounted officer on the flank of the new line or column ought to give his attention to this subject.

SECTION VII.

ON COUNTERMARCHING BY FILES AND RANKS.

Countermarching in Column by Files.

Q. 1. How are companies in column to be countermarched by files?

A. When they receive the caution to "COUNTERMARCH BY FILES," the covering serjeants will instantly cover their division leaders; at the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) FACE," the serjeant covers face to the right about, and the commanders at the same moment take one pace outwards, and face inwards ready to halt their companies. xiii. 51

How the Men face.

Q. 2. To which hand are the men faced?

A. They are faced *to the right*, and countermarch *to the left*, if the right of the column be in front; and the reverse takes place if the left of the column be in front. xiii. 51

Men face from the Pivot and Countermarch to the opposite Hand.

Q. 3. Are companies invariably countermarched to the opposite hand to that to which they face?

A. Yes, except when a battalion in line changes front to the rear on the centre. xxiii. 153

Forming Column upon a Company facing to the Rear.

Q. 4. If a close or quarter-distance column is to be formed from line, upon any company facing to the rear, how is that company to be countermarched?

A. In all countermarches from line, the company of for- xxx. 2. 165

mation will be faced by the command of its own officer, so as to lead to its new pivot.

Countermarching by Ranks, how the Men face.

Q. 5. To which hand should the men face in countermarching by ranks?

xiii. 2. 52 A. The officer and covering serjeant observe the same rule as in countermarching by files, and on the word "RIGHT AND LEFT FACE," whether the right or left be in front; the front rank faces to the right, and the rear rank to the left; on the command, "RIGHT COUNTERMARCH, QUICK MARCH," the whole step off together, the two ranks severally wheeling in single file; and at the proper time, the word "Halt, front, dress" is given.

What the Men are to be guarded against in Countermarching.

Q. 6. What are the men to be particularly cautioned against in countermarching either by ranks or files?

xiii. 2. 52 A. Against slackening the time and shortening the pace.

When the word "Right (or Left) Countermarch" should and should not be given.

Q. 7. In countermarching a column by files, does the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) COUNTERMARCH" precede the command "QUICK MARCH?"

xiii. 1. 51 A. No: it is unnecessary where the men are intended to countermarch to the opposite hand to that to which they have faced; but when this is not the case, either in line or column, the words "RIGHT (OR LEFT) COUNTERMARCH" must be given.

Q. 8. Is this command to be given in countermarching by ranks?

xiii. 2. 52 A. Yes, always.

The Officer is not to wait till all the Men have covered before he gives the word "Halt."

Q. 9. In countermarching a division by files, is the leader

to wait till the men cover each other minutely before he gives the command "Halt, front, dress?"

A. No: he ought to give the word the instant the leading man is at his point. xiii. 2. 52

SECTION VIII.

THE BATTALION HALTED IN LINE AND PASSING IN REVIEW. MANUAL AND PLATOON EXERCISE.

Battalion drawn up at close Order in Line.

Q. 1. State how the battalion ought to be drawn up, while at close order, in line.

A. The ranks are at the distance of one pace, except the supernumerary rank, which has three paces. The commanding officer is the only officer advanced in front; but in the march in line, and in the firings, and at all times when the battalion is acting in brigade, he is in the rear of the colours. p. 125, 126, 127.

The majors are six paces behind the second company, from the right and left of the battalion; the adjutant is at the same distance in rear of the colours; an officer is on the right of the front rank of each company, and one on the left of the front rank of the battalion. All these are covered, in the rear rank, by their respective serjeants; and the remaining officers and serjeants are in a third rank, three paces behind their companies, dressing from the centre.

The colours, carried by the two senior ensigns, are between the fourth and fifth companies, each covered by a non-commissioned officer or steady man in the rear rank; one serjeant is in the front rank betwixt the colours, covered by a second serjeant in the rear rank, and by a third in the supernumerary rank.

The pioneers are behind the centre of the grenadier company, formed two deep, and nine paces from the supernumerary rank. The drummers are in two divisions, nine paces

behind the supernumerary rank of the first and eighth battalion companies.

The band is nine paces from the supernumerary rank, in rear of the centre of the battalion, formed two deep, and at loose files.

The paymaster, the surgeon, assistant-surgeons, and the quarter-master, are three paces behind the music.

Taking open Order in Line.

Q. 2. State the manner of taking open order for the purpose of receiving a general officer.

p. 128. A. On the word "REAR RANKS TAKE OPEN ORDER," the rear-rank man on the right of each company, and the man on the left of the rear rank of the whole line, step back briskly one pace to mark the ground upon which the rear rank is to halt; these men face to the right, and cover as pivots, corrected by the serjeant-major on the right; officers at the same time recover swords, and move at once *close* in front of the files, opposite which they are to stand; *i. e.* the captain in front of the second file from the right of the company; the senior subaltern in front of the second file from the left, and the junior subaltern in front of the centre: if there be a fourth officer, the distance between the two flanks will be equally divided. The covering serjeant doubles behind the front-rank man, to allow the supernumeraries to pass, and then takes the captain's place. On the word "MARCH," the rear rank and supernumerary rank both fall back one pace, dressing by the right, the officers of companies and the colours march three paces direct to the front, glance their eyes to the right, correct their dressing, and port their swords at the word "Steady," from the major, who dresses them.

The music, drummers, and pioneers remain as posted at close order; but when the battalion is reviewed singly, the drummers and pipers will be formed two deep on each flank of the line; the pioneers two deep on the right of the drummers of the right; and the staff, in the same order as is mentioned in the last question, will form on the right of the whole, in line with the pioneers and drummers, and front rank of the grenadiers—the band always remaining in the rear of the centre.

The first major is on the right of the line of officers; the second major on their left; the adjutant on the left of the front rank; the lieutenant-colonel, mounted, is ten paces (if commanding) before the colours.

It is to be remembered, that when two supernumerary officers are posted to a company, the one will pass to the front and rear, in taking open and close order, by the right, the other by the left of the company; if there be three, one will move to the front and rear by the right, the remaining two by the left.

Officers saluting in Line.

Q. 3. How do the officers salute when the men present arms?

A. Officers will be careful to bring their swords to the recover, with the second motion of presented arms, and drop their swords with the last motion, bringing up their left hands while their swords are being lowered. p. 241.

How to carry Swords.

Q. 4. How are swords to be carried, recovered, &c.?

A. Whether the men's arms are carried or sloped, officers' swords must be so held that they shall be nearly vertical, and the back of the blade touching the shoulder. General Order, 1834.

When swords are recovered, the thumb is in line with the chin, the blade perpendicular, and edge to the left; the thumb extended on the side of the handle.

And, in saluting, care must be taken that the sword is lowered, without any pause, in the direction of the right foot, until the point is a few inches from the ground, with the edge to the left; the left arm is at the same time to be raised to the left, as high as the shoulder, and brought gradually round in a circular motion.

How to carry Swords when Men stand at ease.

Q. 5. How are swords placed when the men stand at ease?

A. When they stand at ease, either in close or open order, officers will drop the points of their swords upon the ground, resting both hands upon the end of the hilt, the left covering the right; the edge of the sword to the right.

Taking Close Order in Line.

Q. 6. How do ranks take close order?

A. On the word "REAR RANKS TAKE CLOSE ORDER," the p. 129.

officers, colours, and covering serjeants face to the right, the officers and covering serjeants recovering their swords and fusils; the staff, drummers, and pioneers facing at the same time to the centre.

On the word "MARCH," the rear and supernumerary ranks step forward one pace; the covering serjeants, taking three side-steps to the right, and a short one to the rear, so as to be in the rear of the rear rank, will allow the subaltern officers to pass to the rear, and then front; and the whole resume the places they held in close order; officers commanding companies facing to the right about.

Marching past in Slow and Quick Time.

p. 242. Q. 7. How does the battalion march past a general officer in slow time?

A. The battalion will break into column of companies right in front, and be put in motion, pioneers, music, and drums having been previously ordered to the head of it; points will be fixed for the several wheelings of the divisions, so that their right flanks in marching past shall be only four paces distant from the camp-colour, where it is supposed the general places himself to receive the salute.

The several companies wheel successively at the first and second angles of the ground on the moveable pivot, and the wheel at the latter angle will bring them on the line on which they are to pass the general. During this wheel, each leader of a company will change his flank by *the front* in slow time, facing his men as when wheeling into line from column, and having reached the point to which his right flank wheels up, he instantly places himself square to the front, and gives the word "Forward" as soon as the company has completed its wheel, upon which the men carry arms (if not already ordered to do so) and touch to the right.

Q. 8. When are the ranks opened?

A. Each company in succession, as it arrives within thirty paces of the general, opens its ranks, at which time the officers place themselves in front.

How Officers are placed in marching past.

Q. 9. How are the different officers placed in passing the reviewing officer?

A. The column is led by the pioneers in two ranks, who are followed by the music, drummers, and pipers, six paces behind them. The commanding officer is six paces behind the music; the second in command is in the rear of the column; the third in rear and on the left of the commanding officer; and the adjutant is placed in like manner to the left of the field officer, in the rear of the column. p. 243.

The colours and centre serjeants cover the third, fourth, and fifth files from the right of the fourth battalion company; the company officers are three paces in front of their men arranged as they would be in line.

The supernumerary rank of each company, while its ranks are open, is *three* paces behind the rear rank; the staff officers do not march past.

When Officers salute in marching past.

Q. 10. When do the officers salute?

A. The commander of each company, on arriving within twelve or thirteen paces of the general, makes a concerted signal to his officers, and on reaching a distance of ten paces from the reviewing officer, they will begin the salute by bringing their swords to the recover as they plant their left feet on the ground, and complete the salute by the time that the left feet are brought to the ground a *second* time; thus occupying the time required for four paces in raising and dropping their swords, and being, therefore, in the saluting position when six paces from the general; the left hand is *then* gradually raised to the rim of the bonnet, *two paces* being required also for these motions, the head being turned to the general during the salute. General Order, 1834.

When they recover Swords after saluting.

Q. 11. When do officers afterwards recover their swords?

A. They begin to recover their swords in the same manner, when their left feet are planted, six paces after passing the general, so as to resume their usual position in open order when ten paces beyond him. General Order, 1834.

When Ranks are closed after marching past.

Q. 12. When are rear ranks closed in marching past?

- p. 242. *A.* When each company has passed the general twenty paces, the commander closes his ranks, and each individual will at the same time resume the post which he held previous to the ranks being opened, the captain being on the right, till the next wheel, when he shifts by *the rear* to the left, by turning to the right about.

Marching past in Quick Time.

Q. 13. What difference is there in these arrangements when the column marches past in quick time?

- p. 245. *A.* None whatever, except that ranks are not opened in passing the reviewing officer; the supernumerary rank and the colours preserve the distance of one pace from the rear rank; nor do officers salute; but when the battalion, acting in brigade, and then only, is ordered to march past in quarter-distance column, not having previously marched round in slow time, the mounted officers will salute.—(General Order, 3d Aug. 1829.—See Addenda to General Regulations, p. 643.)

How Arms are carried in marching past.

Q. 14. Are arms to be carried or sloped in marching past?

- p. 244. *A.* The arms may be ordered to be sloped until the head of the column approaches the second wheel, when the commanding officer will give the word “CARRY ARMS;” and it is not till the leading division has completed that wheel that the band will begin to play: it will cease as soon as the rear of the column shall have passed the general; after which the commanding officer may again order the column (if he think fit) to slope arms.

Manual and Platoon Exercise.

Q. 15. When the line is reformed, state what is done if it be wished that the battalion should perform the manual and platoon exercise, by separate words of command.

A. The following are the words to be used, viz.:—

See Manual
and Platoon
Exercise.

Abstract, 32.
p. 247.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Rear ranks take open order—march | { | The officers and colours only coming to the front;—the pioneers, music, &c. remaining in rear, as in close order. |
|---|---|---|

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 2. Order arms—unfix bayonets—shoulder arms . . . | } | The officers, covering serjeants, and the colours facing to the right, and recovering arms; the covering serjeants stepping to the right and rear, as in Question 6, p. 45. |
| 3. Officers and colours take post of exercise in the rear | | |
| 4. Quick march | } | The officers and colours pass to the rear, and halt when in line with the supernumerary rank. |
| 5. Front | | |
| 6. Secure arms — shoulder arms | } | They front, as well as the covering serjeants; the officers bringing their swords to the position of "Attention," as at close order. |
| 7. Order arms—fix bayonets—shoulder arms | | |
| 8. Present arms — shoulder arms | } | The covering serjeants remain steady on the right of companies during the whole of the manual and platoon exercise. |
| 9. Port arms—charge bayonets—shoulder arms | | |
| 10. Advance arms — order arms—advance arms—shoulder arms | } | |
| 11. Support arms—stand at ease—attention | | |
| 12. Carry arms | } | |
| 13. Slope arms—stand at ease—attention | | |
| 14. Carry arms | } | |
| 15. Order arms—stand at ease | | |

Platoon Exercise.

1. Attention!—2. Shoulder arms!—3. Rear ranks take close order—march!—4. Officers commanding companies returning to their posts with recovered swords. On the command "PLATOON EXERCISE," the rear rank locks up!—5. Prime and

load (open pans without command)!—6. Handle cartridge (the men bite the cartridge without command)!—7. Prime (pans are shut without any word)!—8. 'Bout (cartridges put into the muzzle without command); but the two distinct motions with the right arm must be observed.—9. Draw ramrods (the second motion without any word)!—10. Ram down cartridge (the second and third motions without command)!—11. Return ramrods!—12. Ready!—13. P'sent!—14. Load! The men load without any word of command, waiting for the signal to "cast about" and come to the priming position after loading; after which the command will be given to "SHOULDER ARMS."

Q. 16. How are officers to hold their swords during the movements in the field?

General Order, 1834.

A. In marching past, the sword will be grasped by the hilt, as already directed; but, in manœuvring, it may be held by the steel ring outside the guard of the highland basket.

SECTION IX.

BATTALION IN LINE—ADVANCING AND RETIRING.

Q. 1. What preliminary steps are to be taken on the caution that "THE BATTALION WILL ADVANCE IN LINE?"

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xiv. 1. 131

A. The rear rank will instantly lock-up. The central serjeant of the three who direct the line takes six paces to his front, and halts; the two other serjeants who were covering him coming at the same time through the centre, and placing themselves in front of the colours; a serjeant from the rear of the right centre company replaces the leading serjeant in the front rank between the colours, and he is again covered by the serjeant-major six or eight paces in rear of the line.

If no point of prolongation of these three be signified to the central serjeant by the mounted officer in the rear, he will himself (after being assured that he is perfectly placed), by casting

his eyes down the centre of his body, from the junction of his two heels, take up and prolong a line perpendicular to himself and to the battalion. For this purpose he will observe, and take up, any accidental small point, as a tuft of grass, or a stone on the ground, within 100 or 150 paces; remarking also intermediate points, which he can easily renew as he successively approaches them.

These preparatory arrangements being made, and the mounted officer having given the word "Steady," the other two serjeants will immediately move forward, and align themselves upon the one already posted.

How the March of the Centre Serjeants is to be corrected.

8 Q. 2. How are the directing serjeants to be corrected, if necessary, during the march?

A. They will be directed, by a mounted officer, to bring up iii. 5. 73. their right or left shoulders, which they must do very gradually, as the smallest alteration in the squareness of their persons causes a great opening, or crowding, in the distant parts of the line.

How the Men look and feel in moving in Line.

X Q. 3. How are the men to look and feel in advancing or retiring in line?

A. They are to look full to the front, the files of each wing iii. 1. 71. touching lightly inwards.

When Men are allowed to turn their Heads in marching.

Y Q. 4. But are men allowed, on any occasion, to turn their heads in marching?

A. The only occasions when men will look otherwise than straight to the front, either halted or in motion, are in closing by the side-step, in wheeling, and in dressing after a halt: at no other time will they turn their heads or eyes to either flank; but, keeping their elbows steady and without constraint, look and move straight forward.

A Battalion in Line charging.

xv. 132 *Q. 5.* How may a battalion advancing in line "Charge?"
A. Upon the caution "PREPARE TO CHARGE," the front rank will bring their arms to the long trail, and the rear rank to the slope; at the word "CHARGE," which ought soon to follow the caution, the front rank only will come to the charge, the rear rank continuing at the slope, and the whole battalion stepping off at the same moment in double march, the bagpipes playing a pibroch. When the battalion "HALTS," both ranks will come to the shoulder, and remain perfectly steady till they are ordered to dress.

iii. 7. 73 *Q. 6.* How are partial obstacles to be avoided that offer at any time to the advance of the battalion in line?
A. By breaking off the number of files required, either to the right or left, or both.

Rule for the Centre Serjeants in retiring in Line.

xiv. 2. 131 *Q. 7.* In retiring in line, what rule will be observed by the central serjeants?
A. The same rule as for the advance, except that on the caution the rear-rank centre serjeant will face to the right about, move six paces to the rear, and be followed by the other two on the word "Steady."

After the line is faced to the right about, the word "RETIRE" will be given, when the *proper* front rank will lock-up, and on the "HALT" will take a short step previous to fronting.

xiv. 1. 131 *Q. 8.* When do the directing serjeants resume their places in the line, either in advancing or retiring?
A. When the line is ordered to "HALT," or to "PREPARE TO CHARGE."

What the Rear-rank Men are to avoid in retiring in Line.

iii. 8. 74 *Q. 9.* What are the rear-rank men particularly to avoid in retiring in line?
A. Upon all occasions when men move, rear rank in front, the rear-rank men must avoid closing more than usual, otherwise the front-rank men, who are in general larger, will be crowded in their ranks; and if the supernumerary rank are careful, in retiring, to keep the step of the directing serjeants, they may be of great assistance to the line.

The Line is not to be faced about till it is ready to retire.

X Q. 10. May the commanding officer face about the battalion the instant he gives the caution, that it will retire in line?

A. No: he must not face it about till every arrangement be made for its immediate march. iii. 8. 74

X *How Division Leaders are aligned in retiring in Line.*

Q. 11. In retiring in line, are the officers commanding companies aligned with the *proper* front, or rear, rank?

A. They remain aligned with the *proper* front rank, their serjeants being in front of them, aligned with the proper rear rank.

X *How the Flank Companies are placed when wheeled back to cover the Flank of the Line.*

Q. 12. When the flank companies of a battalion are wheeled backward, and faced outwards to cover its flanks, either in advancing or retiring, how are they to be placed?

A. When marching, they move perpendicularly to the line of battalion; when halted, they make an angle with it of about 45 degrees. iii. 9. 74

SECTION X.

ADVANCING AND RETIRING BY WINGS.

X *In moving by Wings, which Wing should fire first.*

Q. 1. Is there any general rule for advancing or retiring by wings, as to whether the right or left wing should fire first?

A. Yes; the advance or retreat is always so arranged that the right wing should fire first. xvii. 1, 2. 135

Position of the Officers, &c.

X xvii. 1. 135

If the battalion is in march and advancing, on the caution "THE BATTALION WILL ADVANCE BY WINGS," the left wing halts by command of the junior major, and the right wing continues to move on fifteen paces, at which instant the word "Quick march" being given to the left wing, the right wing is at the same time ordered by the senior major to "Halt, ready, p'sent, load," and the left wing marches past it, till the right wing, having loaded and shouldered, receives the word "Quick march," the other wing then "Halts," &c., and thus they alternately proceed. On the caution, the division leaders in the right wing, and their covering serjeants, shift by the rear to their left flanks, and the front-rank centre serjeant runs out six paces in front to direct the wing, the king's colour easing off to the left to make room for the leader of the right centre company; the rear-rank centre serjeant placing himself at the same time six paces in front of the regimental colour, a colour accompanying each wing.

Q. 2. How does the battalion retire by wings?

A. If the battalion is retiring, on the caution by the commanding officer, the senior major will order "Right wing, halt front;" and when the left wing has gained fifteen paces, the junior major will give the word "Left wing, halt front." The right wing is instantly ordered to fire, load, face about, and march, fifteen paces beyond the left wing, where it receives the word "Halt front." The left wing then makes ready, &c. The "Ready, p'sent," of the advanced wing is instantly to succeed the march of the other wing (advancing), or the "Halt front" of the retiring wing.

Right Wing firing by Companies.

X Q. 3. If the right wing should be ordered to fire by companies, while the commanders are thus placed on their left flanks, how are they to stand?

xxxviii. 180

A. They will step in the usual manner to the rear, giving to their divisions in that position the necessary words, "Ready, p'sent."

Wings to have two Commands.

X Q. 4. Does the commanding officer of the battalion halt either wing?

A. No; the senior major commands the right, and the junior major the left wing; and the commanding officer takes a general superintendence of the whole battalion. xvii. 1. 135

Re-forming Line of Battalion.

X *Q.* 5. On re-forming the line of battalion, after an advance or retreat by wings, who halts the moving wing?

A. The officer who happens to be in the immediate command of it.

No Points to be taken up.

X *Q.* 6. Is it necessary for the covering serjeants to run out from the moving wing to take up points on which it may be dressed, on rejoining the halted wing?

A. No; unless the commanding officer should desire it, for the purpose of *minutely* dressing the line.

SECTION XI.

OF FIRINGS.

From whence the Firing should begin in Formations to Line.

X *Q.* 1. From whence ought the firing generally to commence, after an advance of the battalion in line?

A. It ought to begin from the centre, and not from the flanks; but in formations of the line by successive divisions, it may begin from the division on which the change of position is made. xiii. 1. 119

Rule for firing by Divisions.

X *Q.* 2. What is the rule prescribed for firing by divisions?

- xiii. 2. 119 *A.* Upon the caution being given that the battalion “WILL FIRE BY DIVISIONS,” each division leader will fall to the rear (his covering serjeant taking his place in the ranks), but will wait for the last tap of the drum to commence; and every commander will be careful to give to his division the word “Ready,” the instant the previous division has fired, preserving the pause of slow time between each of the words “Ready, p’sent,” the men firing when they have covered their objects. After firing, the men make a pause of two slow paces before bringing (without the word) their firelocks to the loading position, after which they wait for the right-hand man to cast about together; and after loading, to bring their firelocks to the priming position.
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When Division Leaders return to the Ranks after the Firing has ceased.

X *Q. 3.* When do division leaders resume their places in the line?

A. As soon as the last division has fired its prescribed number of rounds, or when the commanding officer shall think fit, the usual signal to cease firing will be given, when the officers, waiting for the last flam of the drum, will come to their proper position in line.

X *The Men make ready after the first Fire without any Word of Command.*

Q. 4. When divisions are ordered to fire either a certain, or an unspecified, number of rounds, do they bring their muskets to the shoulder after each round?

A. No: after firing and loading, the men bring their firelocks to the priming position, receiving afterwards the word “p’sent,” or “shoulder arms.”

X *How the Men act when the Number of Rounds has not been prescribed.*

Q. 5. If the number of rounds has not been prescribed, and the men have cocked and made ready before the close of the *general*, what is to be done?

Abstract, 38. *A.* The commander of the company will give the word “Half-cock arms—shoulder arms.”

Men may prime and load from ordered Arms.

Q. 6. May not any body of men prime and load, or make ready, from the *order*, as well as from the *shoulder*?

A. Certainly they may.

Abstract, 39.

On the Caution to Fire, the Rear Rank closes up.

Q. 7. What is specially to be observed by the rear rank, upon all occasions, when the caution is given that firing will commence?

A. On the caution, the rear rank will instantly close up; and the supernumeraries will particularly attend to this important object during the firing.

Rule for firing a Volley.

Q. 8. What is the rule for firing a volley?

A. For firing a volley the commanding officer simply gives, after the caution, the words "READY, P'SENT," and, after the men have fired, and the usual pause of two steps of slow time, the word "LOAD," the men taking the signal from the right-hand man of the battalion, to cast about, and, after loading, to come to the priming position.

Firing by Wings.

Q. 9. How does a battalion in line fire by wings?

A. One wing will make ready at the moment the other has completed its loading; in other respects the firing is the same as for a volley, except that the commanding officer fires one wing, and the second in command the other. But when the battalion is advancing or retiring by wings, the two majors will give the command as already directed.

xiii. 3. 119

Position of Division Leaders and Covering Serjeants when the Battalion fires a Volley, or by Wings.

Q. 10. What is the situation of the commanders of companies and their covering serjeants during the firing by battalion and by wings?

A. They remain in their place in line.

File-Firing.

Q. 11. What is the method of practising file-firing?

Abstract, 40. A. Commanders remain in their places in line, and on the
 xiii. 120, caution, the first file, at the close of the preparative, will begin
 121 firing, each file making ready as the preceding file is present-
 ing: but after the first round every file will fire as soon as it
 is loaded; the rear-rank man keeping his eye upon his front-
 rank man, and preserving his fire until his front-rank man
 has fired; and, at the close of the *general*, the men will all
 come to the shoulder independently after loading.

Where File-Firing begins in Formations to Line.

Q. 12. In formations to line, where does the file or inde-
 pendent firing commence?

xiii. 4. 5. A. It will commence with the division upon which the for-
 120 mation to line is made; and the outer section of the last divi-
 sion formed will reserve its fire until the succeeding division,
 after being quickly dressed, has received the word "Eyes
 front."

Q. 13. Should file-firing be ordered to commence from the
 centre, how is it practised?

A. On the supposition that, during the formation of line
 from a double column, the battalion is ordered to "FIRE BY
 FILES FROM THE CENTRE." The two centre companies will
 commence, the right centre company from the left, and the
 the left centre company from the right; and each company,
 after forming in line and receiving the word "Eyes front,"
 will commence firing from the flank next the centre of the
 battalion, without regard to the companies already formed.

Firing in Square.

Q. 14. What is the rule for firing in square?

xiii. 8. 121 A. Upon all occasions in square, when the men receive the
 word "PREPARE FOR CAVALRY," they will regard it only as a
 caution; but upon the command "READY," the front rank, if
 the square is only three deep, or the two front ranks, where the
 square has a greater depth, will instantly come to the kneeling
 position of defence, but without cocking, the two front stand-
 ing ranks only cocking.

The Firing in Square is not to commence without Orders.

Q. 15. Does the firing then commence?

A. No; not till the commanding officer has signified which kind of firing is to be practised, and from whence. xiii. 8. 121
xxi. 3. 145

If file-firing is ordered, the two front *standing* ranks will proceed; and at the close of the *general* to cease firing, they will load, and stand steady, with ordered arms. If it be intended that the kneeling ranks should fire, they will receive the word "READY, P'SENT." After firing, the kneeling ranks resume their posture of defence, by resting the butts of their firelocks upon the ground, until the commanding officer gives the command to "LOAD," upon which they stand up to load. After loading they will likewise order arms; and the whole will receive the word "SHOULDER ARMS" from the commanding officer.

Street Firing.

Q. 16. How is street firing performed?

A. The divisions being drawn up in column, at wheeling, half or quarter distance, the leading division will fire *kneeling*; the second division will close upon it, and fire standing, the column seeking the first opportunity of charging forward. xiii. 9. 122

But, in retiring, the leading division will give its fire, slope arms, face outwards by subdivisions, file to the rear, re-form company, load, and remain halted until its front is again clear. The moment the second company is clear, it will give its fire, face outwards by subdivisions, &c., and so on by companies in succession; if necessary, the outward files of the halted companies will double up, to allow those from the front to pass.

SECTION XII.

WHEELING ON HALTED AND MOVEABLE PIVOTS.

The Look in Wheeling.

- xix. 21 Q. 1. To which flank do men look and feel in wheeling?
 A. Whether they wheel on the halted or moveable pivot, they feel towards the pivot and look outwards, except the outer man, who looks inwards; and the whole, during the wheel, take the step from the outward man.

Wheeling into Line to either Flank.

- xi. 50 Q. 2. May not the divisions of an open column be wheeled into line to either flank?
 A. Yes, if the divisions are equalized, they may; and they ought to be practised to do so.

Divisions wheeling in succession to either Flank.

- xii. 51 Q. 3. Then the divisions of an open column may wheel in succession *at the same point*, on the reverse, as well as the pivot flank, into a new direction?
 iv. 6. 77 A. Yes, if the divisions are equal; but if they are unequal, a strong division must wheel at a point short of the preceding one, by the space of as many files as the strength of the latter is exceeded, and a weak division must overpass the wheeling point of its preceding stronger one, by the space of as many files as it is deficient.

A halted Pivot.

- Q. 4. What is meant by wheeling on a *halted* pivot?

A. When the pivot, on the caution being given to wheel, faces at once in the new direction. xi. 1. 48
xix. 21
xx. 22

Moveable Pivot.

Q. 5. When are men said to wheel on the *moveable* pivot?

A. When the pivot, stepping short, brings his shoulder gradually round with the rest of the division, the pivot, and the outer man of the division, describing in their movement the arcs of two concentric circles. But custom seems to justify the pivot man, in many cases, in circling round almost upon his own ground. xi. 2. 49
xxi. 23

Difference of Time and Step in wheeling on the halted and moveable Pivots.

Q. 6. What is the chief difference, as to the cadence and length of step, between wheeling on the halted and moveable pivot?

A. In wheeling on the moveable pivot, the men always bring their shoulders round at the same time in which the body had been previously moving; whereas, in wheeling on the halted pivot, the men invariably move round in quick time. In both cases the outward man preserves the usual pace of thirty inches. xi. 1. 49
xix. 21
xxi. 23

Wheeling from Line into Column of Divisions, on the halted and moveable Pivots.

Q. 7. How is the battalion in line wheeled into column of divisions on the halted and moveable pivot?

A. When the battalion in line receives the caution to wheel, either backward or forward, by divisions, into column on the halted pivot, division leaders instantly place themselves *close* before the centre of their companies, the pivots face, the covering serjeants fall back *two* paces, with the exception of the serjeant of the future leading company of the column, who runs out and places himself at the point where the wheeling flank of that company is to rest at the completion of the wheel, and the supernumerary rank of the whole line advances *one* pace. During the wheel, division leaders will turn towards their men, and incline to that flank which is to become the directing or pivot one, whence they will "Halt" and "Dress" their Abstract, p. 1, 79.

companies in column; upon which the covering serjeants will cover the second file from the pivot flanks of their companies, towards which they should have moved at the word "Quick march."

On the contrary, on the caution that a line, whether halted or in motion, will wheel into column of divisions on the *moveable* pivot, nothing whatever is done; but on the word "SHOULDERS FORWARD," division leaders shift, if necessary, by the front, and their covering serjeants, by the rear, to their proper posts in the column.

Column of Divisions wheeling into Line on the halted and moveable Pivots.

Q. 8. State the difference in wheeling an open column of divisions into line upon the halted and moveable pivots?

vii. 45 A. When a column of divisions receives the caution to
ix. 20. 96 wheel into line, in the former case, division leaders move
xi. 2. 50 to the centre of their companies *one* pace from the front rank, the rear rank closes up, the pivots face, and raise their right arms, their rear-rank coverers doubling behind the second file. The covering serjeant of the leading company runs out, and marks where its outward flank is to rest in line, and the other covering serjeants place themselves on the right of their companies, if the wheel is to be to the left, and behind the second file from the pivot, if the wheel is to be to the right. On the word "QUICK MARCH," division leaders will turn round, and inclining towards the *wheeling* flank of their companies, will "Halt dress" them, from the second file from the pivot flank of the contiguous company; but in such cases, officers will give the word "Halt dress," when the outer flanks of their companies are one pace short of the line, that the men may dress up instead of dressing back. On the word "Eyes front," the pivots respectively drop their right hands.

But after the pivots of a column have faced, in order to its being wheeled into line, the commanding officer will not give the word "QUICK MARCH" till the mounted officer on the flank has made a concerted signal that the pivots are correctly dressed.

But on the *moveable* pivot, whether the column is halted or in motion, when its divisions are required to wheel into line, officers will not quit the positions they occupy in column till the commencement of the wheel, when they will shift to their proper places in line *by the front*.

Q. 9. When is wheeling on the halted and moveable pivot applied?

A. Wheeling on the moveable pivot is to be applied upon all occasions, except when a halted column is wheeled into line, or a halted line is broken into column.

Q. 10. Do the pivot men also raise their right arms when a halted column of subdivisions or sections is cautioned to wheel into line?

A. No; only in the case of a column of companies.

xi. 50

Rear Rank closes up in wheeling forward.

Q. 11. Does the rear rank, in wheeling, remain at the same distance from the front rank as on other occasions?

A. In wheeling on the moveable pivot it does; but whenever divisions receive the caution to wheel *forward* on the halted pivot, the men of the rear rank instantly lock up, by taking a short step together to the front.—Q. 8, page 62.

Q. 12. If an open column is to wheel a quarter circle, by successive divisions, into a new direction, and to its proper pivot flank, as in marching round a square, when ought each division leader to give the word “—— shoulders forward.”

A. Each division leader will give the word “Shoulders forward” at the same point, although the preceding division, instead of having then completed its wheel, will only have performed two-thirds of its quarter circle; for it is to be remembered that the extent of a division being only about two-thirds of the arc of the quarter circle described by its outward man in wheeling, the leading division of an open column, in changing its direction a quarter circle, will only have performed two-thirds of its required wheel, at the moment the succeeding division reaches the wheeling point. The two divisions, therefore, will continue to wheel together till the first, having finished its wheel, receives the word “Forward.” At this instant, the second division will have accomplished one-third of its wheel, and the third division in the column will be half its own extent from the wheeling point.

iv. 4. 76

In continuation of the movement, the leading division will have advanced a distance equal to its own length, while the second division has been performing the remaining two-thirds of its wheel, and while the third division has been advancing to the wheeling point, from which it was distant by half its length, and has, moreover, been wheeling one-third of its

quarter circle. If this rule be carefully observed by all the divisions in succession, there will be no confusion or loss of distance, which cannot otherwise be avoided, unless the men on the outer flanks of divisions depart from the true principles of wheeling, by improperly quickening and lengthening their step, which they are frequently obliged to do, from the inattention of division leaders, who neglect to give the word "——— shoulders forward" at the instant they arrive at the wheeling point.

Wheeling into Column by facing the Men about.

Q. 13. When the divisions of a battalion in line are strong, is it not desirable to wheel them into column, by previously facing them about, instead of wheeling them backward in the usual manner?

iv. 5. 77 A. Yes: where the divisions are stronger than fifteen or sixteen files, and the ground is uneven, it is better to do so.

The Word to be given.

Q. 14. What is the command for thus breaking a line into open column?

iv. 5. 77 A. On the word "FORM OPEN COLUMN RIGHT (OR LEFT) IN FRONT," the pivots face as if the divisions were to wheel backwards, and the leaders place themselves at the centre of their companies; the commanding officer then gives "RIGHT ABOUT FACE, RIGHT WHEEL, QUICK OR DOUBLE MARCH," when the companies wheel, and are halted, fronted, and dressed, at the proper time, by their own commanders; the *proper* front rank closing up, after being faced to the rear, at the word "Right (or left) wheel."

Wheeling into Echelon, without measuring the number of Paces.

Q. 15. Is there not some method of wheeling companies from line into column or echelon, without measuring the number of paces, from the eighth file, in the usual manner?

A. Yes; the number of paces of thirty inches, contained in the arc of the quarter circle, described by the outer man of any division wheeling, being equal to the number of files composing its front, it follows, that if the divisions be halted, after

wheeling from line the number of paces equal to their number of files, they will stand in open column, and in the same proportion for any part of the circle.

For example, if the commanding officer wishes to throw a line, either halted or in motion, into echellon of divisions the one-eighth of a circle, he will take care, after giving the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) SHOULDERS FORWARD," to give the further command "HALT," or "FORWARD," when the divisions have taken half as many steps in wheeling as the number of files of which they are each composed.

Why the number of Paces in the Arc of a Quarter-Circle is equal to the number of Files in the Division that wheels it.

Q. 16. Explain, by means of figures, why the number of paces in the arc of the quarter-circle is equal to the number of files in the division wheeling it.

A. As the number of paces, in the extent of every company, is about two-thirds of its number of files, a company consisting of thirty files will require for its front about twenty paces; and as the radius of every circle is equal to about one-sixth of the line of its circumference, the number of paces in the whole circumference of a circle, of which such a company is the radius, will be six times twenty, or 120 paces.

Consequently, the number of paces, in the arc of the quarter-circle, described by the outer man of this company, in wheeling, will be one-fourth of 120 paces, or thirty paces, which is also the number of files of which the company is composed.

Why Paces are measured from the eighth File.

Q. 17. Why are the paces, in wheeling a company into echellon, always measured from the eighth file?

A. Because the eighth file is sufficiently distant from the standing flank to form with it an accurate line for prolongation, and not so distant as ever to be beyond the number of files in the division to be wheeled.

The consequence if measured from any other File.

Q. 18. Would the same number of paces be required for

the different wheels, if the measurement were taken from any other than the eighth file—say from the twelfth file?

A. Certainly not; for it having been shewn, in Q. 16, that the number of paces taken by the outer man of every division, in wheeling a quarter-circle, is equal to the number of files composing the division, it is evident that, as the measurement of eight paces from the eighth file will in all cases be equal to a quarter-circle wheel, and four paces from the same file will correspond to the wheel of the eighth of a circle, you must, in measuring from the twelfth file, substitute twelve and six paces, for the eight and four paces required in the former case.

Wheeling on the Centre.

Q. 19. How are companies wheeled on the centre?

xiv. 53 *A.* On the caution being given, “BY COMPANIES ON THE CENTRE TO THE RIGHT (OR LEFT) WHEEL,” the commanders place themselves close in front of the centre, and the covering serjeants run out and align themselves with the centre man, but to that flank which is to be the pivot one, if the wheel is to be from line into column, and to that which is to be the right of their companies, if the wheel is to be from column into line; the division leaders inclining towards their serjeants during the wheel.

On the same caution, the right-hand men of the left subdivisions face to the right; the right subdivisions, on the word “QUICK MARCH,” wheeling backward, and the left forward. But if the wheel is to the left, the left-hand men of the right subdivisions of companies face *to the left*, the left subdivisions wheeling backward, and the right forward.

In wheeling on the centre to the right about, or left about, the pivots face accordingly, and the wheeling proceeds as above directed. Although the outward man of the subdivision that wheels backward ought to take the usual length of step, yet, whether he does so or not, the other subdivision will take care, in its forward movement, to correspond to the movement of the retiring one, that the whole company may preserve a perfect line during the wheel. But, in many cases, it will be advisable to face the retiring subdivision to the right about previously to the wheel on the centre.

Time is saved by wheeling on the Centre.

Q. 20. Is there not a saving of time in wheeling on the centre?

A. Yes: a wheel on the centre is performed in half the time required for wheeling on a flank.

Wheeling from Line into Column of Sections or Subdivisions.

Q. 21. State the method of wheeling from line into column of subdivisions or sections upon the halted and moveable pivots?

A. When a line receives the caution to wheel by subdivisions or sections, either forward or backward, upon the *halted* pivot, the same rules will be observed as in the wheel of divisions, except that the commander of each division will place himself one pace in front of the centre of that which is *to be* the leading subdivision or section of his company, from the pivot flank of which, after the wheel, he will give the word "Halt, dress," to all the sections. During the wheel the subalterns, or in their absence the serjeants, specially appointed to command the rear sections will move towards their pivot flanks, that they may place themselves there at the moment when "Halt, dress," is given. viii. 46

Wheeling from line on the *moveable* pivot into column of sections is conducted in the same manner as the wheeling of divisions.

Wheeling from Column of Sections into Line, on the halted Pivot.

Q. 22. Explain what is to be done when a column of subdivisions or sections receives the caution to wheel into line on the *halted* pivot?

A. The pivots face, their rear-rank men covering off; the commander of each division places himself one pace in front of the centre of his subdivision; the commanders of the rear-subdivisions or sections fall to the rear, removing during the wheel to their proper places in line; while the covering serjeant places himself on the right of the leading subdivision or section, if the column, standing *right* in front, is to be wheeled left into line; but if a column, *left* in front, is to be wheeled xi. 48

right into line, he will run by *the reverse* flank of the column, and place himself behind the second file from the pivot flank of the rear, or right subdivision or section of the company, so as to be ready, during the wheel, to take his commander's place in the line. On the word "Quick march" the men will wheel, and the whole will "halt, dress," by command of the *division* leaders.

But in wheeling into line on the *moveable* pivot, if the right of the column is in front, at the word "RIGHT SHOULDERS FORWARD," the commanders of companies and their covering serjeants will move, the former by the front, the latter by the rear, to the right of the leading subdivision or section; the other leaders of sections falling at the same time to the rear, to be ready to take their proper places in line on the word "HALT," or "FORWARD," by the commanding officer. If a column of sections, left in front, is to be wheeled on the moveable pivot into line, on the word "LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD," the covering serjeants and commanders of the rear sections will place themselves as before; but, during the wheel, the commander of each company will shift by the pivot flank to the right of his company, where he will be, when the commanding officer gives to the line "HALT," or "FORWARD."

The Division Leader halts all the Sections.

Q. 23. In wheeling either forward or backward, by subdivisions or sections, who gives the "Halt, dress?"

ix. 47
xi. 2. 50

A. The officers commanding companies only.

Wheeling a close Column.

Q. 24. State how a close column is wheeled on the halted and moveable pivots?

x. 5. 6. 7.
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xxxiii. 1. 169

A. Upon the caution, in the former case, "TO THE LEFT WHEEL" (supposing the right in front), the flank file on the left of the front company, whether officer or man, will face to the left; the front company stands fast; but the remaining companies make a half-face to the right; the covering serjeant of the front company moving out, to mark where the outward flank of the column will rest, when the wheel is completed. Upon the word "QUICK MARCH," the front company will wheel as usual, with the exception that the wheeling step must be shorter, to give the rear companies time to come round:

these companies will step off at the same moment, bringing the right shoulder gradually up, and each file circling round, and covering the relative file of the division in front. The officers and covering serjeants will circle, in the same way, round the officers in their front, taking care to confine their sole attention to the distance and covering.

The only difference in wheeling a close column on the *moveable* pivot is that on the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) SHOULDERS FORWARD," all the divisions, except the front one (which will wheel with short steps, as above stated,) will make a *half-turn* to the outward flank, and circle round as already directed, the whole continuing to wheel until the word "HALT," or "FORWARD," is given.

Who halts the Column after the Wheel.

Q. 25. In the case of the close column being wheeled on the *halted* pivot, is it the commanding officer who gives the word "HALT," at the completion of the wheel?

A. Yes, it is; and no man is afterwards to move, until companies are ordered to be dressed.

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Q. 26. Which is the directing flank in these cases?

A. The outward flank.

Wheeling a Quarter-Distance Column of Divisions.

Q. 27. How is a quarter-distance column wheeled on the *halted* pivot?

A. Upon the caution "RIGHT (OR LEFT) WHEEL," the rear divisions half face to the wheeling flank; and on the word "QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH," the front division will advance six paces, and then wheel by the word "Wheel," from its own leader, and come at a shortened step round the pivot, who instantly faces in the new direction, the rear divisions circling round as directed in the case of the close column.

x. 7. 105

xxxiii. 3. 170

Q. 28. How is the quarter-distance column wheeled on the *moveable* pivot?

A. The commanding officer gives the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) SHOULDERS FORWARD," upon which the front division moves round at a short pace, the pivot man gradually advancing during the wheel in the new direction, until the commanding officer sees that the rear divisions have circled round into

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any required alignment, at proper distances; he then gives the word "FORWARD."

N.B. In all these wheels, when the companies are unequal, the reverse files must not attempt to cover the outward file of a preceding company that may be stronger, but will carefully preserve their relative situations during the wheel.

Q. 29. After what has been mentioned on the subject of wheeling, state what is the chief difference to be observed by division leaders, in wheeling into column and echelon upon the *halted* pivot?

A. In all cases, when companies in column receive the caution to wheel into line, or a line to wheel into column, on the halted pivot, officers place themselves at the centre of their divisions, or leading subdivisions, and during the wheel (if it be into column) incline towards the pivot, and (if into line) towards the outward or wheeling flank of their companies, whence they are to be halted and dressed; whereas, upon the caution that companies in line or column will wheel a given number of paces into oblique echelon, or move to front or rear in direct echelon, division leaders will shift by the rear to the *inner* flanks, and there "Halt" and "Dress" their companies, in the one case (see Q. 4, p. 104, Q. 10, p. 106); and, in that of the direct echelon, will give, at the proper time, the word "Quick march."

Wheeling into Column and Echelon on the Moveable Pivot.

Q. 30. State the difference in wheeling into column and echelon upon the *moveable* pivot?

A. There is none. Whether a line wheels into open column or echelon, or a column or echelon wheels into line, or a direct echelon changes its front by a quarter-circle wheel on the moveable pivot, division leaders will not shift their flanks till the necessary wheel has commenced.

Q. 31. Do officers in these cases shift their flanks by the front or rear?

A. If the officer have to shift in wheeling *to* the outer flank, he will move by *the front*; but if he change *from* the wheeling to the pivot flank, he will shift by the rear.

Wheeling in File.

Q. 32. State the principles on which a company marching in file is wheeled to either flank?

A. Each file makes its separate wheel on a pivot moveable xxxv. 33 in a very small degree, but without altering its time of march; the front-rank men, whether they are pivot-men or not, must keep up to their distance, and the wheeling men must take a *very extended* step, and lose no time in moving on.

To prevent the too sudden stop that frequently takes place on the part of the *pivot*-men, and the too lengthened step of the *wheeling* men at the wheeling point, the head of the company, and every succeeding file in it, must, on approaching the wheeling point, gain the new from the old direction very gradually.

SECTION XIII.

OF COLUMNS AT QUARTER, HALF, AND WHEELING DISTANCE.

Proper Pivot Flank.

Q. 1. Which is the *proper* pivot-flank in column?

A. It is that which, when wheeled up to, preserves the divisions of the line in their natural order and to their proper front. viii. 2. 46

The Reverse Flank.

Q. 2. What is the other flank called as a distinction?

A. It is called the reverse flank. viii. 2. 46

Covering in Column to the Pivot.

Q. 3. To which flank do divisions cover and dress in column, whether open or close?

A. To the *proper* pivot-flank; to the left when the right of the column is in front, and to the right when the left is in front. viii. 2. 46

Exceptions.

- xviii. 3. 139 Q. 4. Is this an invariable rule?
 A. Yes; except in double column, where the covering and dressing are always *to the left*, unless otherwise ordered.
-

Pivot Subdivision.

- Q. 5. Which is the *pivot* subdivision of any company?
 A. That which includes the pivot-file at the time; the other may be termed the *reverse* subdivision.
-

Mounted Officers' Post in Column.

- ix. 10. 93 Q. 6. Where are the mounted officers posted in column?
 A. The ordinary post of the commanding officer is near the pivot-flank of the leading division; that of the other field officers is near the centre and rear divisions, on the reverse flanks; the adjutant may be in the rear, or wherever he is required.
-

Post of the Companies' Officers and Serjeants.

- ix. 11. 93 Q. 7. Where are the other officers and the serjeants posted in open, half, and quarter distance column of divisions?
 A. The captain is on the pivot-flank of his company, aligned with the front rank; the next in command covers the second file from the reverse flank; the other subalterns are in the rear of the third and fourth sections, and the serjeants at equal distances from them, except the covering serjeant, who is in rear of the second file from the pivot-flank.
-

Distance of the Supernumerary Rank in Column.

- Q. 8. At what distance is the supernumerary rank from the rear rank in column at quarter, half, or wheeling distance?
 A. At one pace distance.
-

Marching at ease.

- Q. 9. What word is given, in columns of march, when it is intended that the men shall march at perfect liberty, carry their arms as they please, and converse with one another?

A. The word "MARCH AT EASE;" and when it is wished to resume regularity of marching, the word "ATTENTION" is to be given. But the pivot-files, who may be occasionally relieved, must always preserve their distances. ix. 23. 99

Extent occupied by a Battalion in Column.

Q. 10. Do a battalion in line and its open column occupy the same extent of ground?

A. No; the battalion in column occupies a space less than that in line, by the extent of the leading division. ix. 2. 89

Forming Line to a Flank from open Column.

Q. 11. How does an open column of divisions or subdivisions on the march, form line to either flank, suppose the column has the right in front?

A. If the formation is to be to the left flank, it is only necessary to halt and wheel the column into line; but if the line be intended to be formed to the right, or reverse flank, upon the command being given, "RIGHT FORM LINE," division or subdivision leaders will instantly shift to their right flanks by the rear, the commander of the leading subdivision of the column giving to it, while he is shifting, the word "Left shoulders forward," and on its wheeling the quarter-circle, the additional word "Forward," till it has gained three paces, when he will "Halt" and "Dress" it upon his own two sergeants, as base points, and the distant point of the line of formation.

xxi. 62
xxvi. 158,

The second subdivision, on reaching the right of the line, gradually inclines to the left by the oblique step, till it be clear of the formed line; and the remaining subdivisions, advancing along the rear till they arrive at the left flank, receive in succession the word "Left shoulders forward—forward, halt, dress up." But in this movement it will be necessary for the rear divisions of the column to take a shortened step in passing along the rear of the line.

Distance of the Supernumerary Rank during this Formation.

Q. 12. At what distance is the supernumerary rank from the rear rank of the battalion during this formation?

A. In all such cases, where divisions move in column along

the rear of the line, the supernumeraries in line will close to *one* pace distance from the rear rank, falling back to three paces on the completion of the formation.

Covering in Column previously to the Wheel into Line.

Q. 13. When the covering of an open column is corrected for the purpose of *immediately* wheeling it into line, is it necessary to close by the side-step to the right or left, the whole battalion or any company that may require to be moved?

A. No. To prevent unnecessary shuffling, it will be better that the commanders of companies, and their pivot-men only, should move, to take up the covering.

Post of Division Leaders in open Column, Rear Rank in Front.

Q. 14. When an open, half, or quarter distance column moves rear rank in front, on which flank ought the commanders of companies to be?

A. Invariably on the *proper pivot* flank, *i. e.* on that which would be the pivot, were the column to come to its proper front.

To be in line with the Rear Rank.

Q. 15. Are commanders, in such a case, to be aligned with the front or rear rank?

A. They are to be aligned with the *proper rear rank*, which is the actual front rank. But, in close column, division leaders, being covered by their serjeants, do not change places with them when the column moves rear rank in front.

Distance of the Column of March.

Q. 16. When the necessity of forming line to a flank is not likely to occur, at what distance is it most advisable that the column of march should move?

ix, 23. 99 A. At quarter-distance.

Column of March is seldom in a straight line.

Q. 17. Suppose the line described by the leading division of a column is not a straight one, how are the rear divisions to act?

A. They will follow, at their ordered distances, the exact path traced out by the leading division; nor must they endeavour of themselves to get into a straight line, when the general direction is a winding one, until an express order is given for that purpose. ix. 23. 98

How Obstacles are to be passed in Column of March.

Q. 18. When an obstacle presents itself unexpectedly to the front of a column of march, what ought the commander of the leading division to do?

A. He will proceed to diminish the front, without waiting for the directions of the commanding officer. ix. 25. 101

Division Leaders in Column to march inside of the Distant Points.

Q. 19. Do commanders of divisions, in marching in open column, cover the points upon which they move, or march inside of them?

A. Each commander will so move, that his outer shoulder shall just graze the head of the horse, or the inner shoulder of any man on foot, posted at an intermediate point, and which he must invariably preserve in a straight line with the distant points. Should any of the companies neglect their covering, those that succeed them must rectify the error, and exactly touch whatever intermediate points may be placed to mark an alignment, without regard to the companies immediately preceding them. vi. 5. 82

A Column wheeled into Line, is one Pace behind the Line of Battalion Points.

Q. 20. When any column, then, is halted and wheeled into line, will the line of battalion points be a prolongation of the line of men?

A. No; the line of men will be one pace behind, and

parallel to the line of distant points ; but in all other formations of lines, the line of horses' heads, or of the inner shoulders of men on foot (which must not be obscured), will be an exact prolongation of the line of men.

Cause of this space.

Q. 21. How is this difference occasioned in wheeling into line from column ?

A. It is occasioned by the removal of the commanders of companies, the space of whose persons is equal to twenty inches, and by the facing of the pivots, which is equal to a space of ten inches more.

Column closing to the Front.

Q. 22. How is an open, half, or quarter distance column closed to the front ?

A. If the column is halted, the commanding officer gives the word "THE COLUMN WILL CLOSE TO THE FRONT," upon which caution, the covering serjeant of the front division will place himself *six* paces in front of its pivot flank, facing the column, in order that the commanders of the rear companies may cover correctly on the march ; and on the word "QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH," the supernumeraries of the front division will remove to its reverse flank. When the whole column is formed, the serjeant of the leading division will resume his place in his company.

On the commanding officer giving the word "QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH," all the companies, except the leading one, will move forward, and be halted in proper time by their respective commanders.

If the column is on its march when it is ordered to close to the front, the instant it receives the caution, the commander of the leading division will "Halt" it, his covering serjeant running out, and the remaining divisions moving on as before ; the supernumeraries of each division, as soon as it is closed, placing themselves on the reverse flank.

But if it be required to close the column to the front without halting, the commanding officer will give the caution, "THE COLUMN WITHOUT HALTING WILL CLOSE TO THE FRONT," "REMAINING DIVISIONS, DOUBLE MARCH;" upon which the front division will move steadily on in quick time,

and the remainder close upon it by the double march; each commander, at the proper time, giving the word "Quick," to resume the quick march.

Battalion in Line advancing in Column from a Flank.

Q. 23. How does the battalion, formed in line, advance in open column of divisions or subdivisions from a flank?

A. Precisely on the same principle as in advancing in double column of subdivisions from the centre, by the commanding officer giving the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) DIVISION TO THE FRONT," "REMAINING DIVISIONS LEFT (OR RIGHT) SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK MARCH;" and, on the completion of the quarter-circle wheel, the word "FORWARD," division leaders shifting flanks (if necessary) by the front, during the wheel. xviii. 1. 186

Reforming Line.

Q. 24. How is line reformed on the front division or subdivision of such a column?

A. The commanding officer will give the caution "FORM LINE ON THE FIRST DIVISION," "REMAINING DIVISIONS, RIGHT (OR LEFT) SHOULDERS FORWARD;" and, as soon as they have wheeled the eighth of the circle, the word "FORWARD;" when the leading division will be halted and dressed by its own leader, on his base points and the distant battalion point: division leaders shift by the front to their inner flanks during the wheel, and proceed afterwards with their companies into line. See Q. 20, p. 109. xviii. 2. 137

Retiring in Column of Divisions or Subdivisions from a Flank.

Q. 25. How is the retreat of the battalion in line effected from a flank?

A. On the caution, "RETIRE BY COMPANIES (OR SUBDIVISIONS) FROM THE LEFT (OR RIGHT) IN REAR OF THE RIGHT (OR LEFT)," the supernumerary rank will close up; the commander of the left company will instantly give "Left company right about face, quick march;" and at the third pace, when clear of the line, "Right shoulders forward:" and, on completing the wheel of the quarter circle, he will give the word "Forward," remaining himself on the *inward* flank. xix. 1. 140

The division proceeds along the rear of the line until it reaches the inward flank of the right division, where it again wheels on a point placed for that purpose, and proceeds straight to the rear, the officer shifting, by the rear, during the last wheel, to his proper post in the column. The other divisions follow in like manner in succession.

Battalion in Line marching successively in Column of Divisions from a Flank along the Rear.

Q. 26. If a battalion in line be required to march off successively in column of divisions from a flank, how is the movement executed?

xx. 143 A. Upon the caution being given, "THE BATTALION WILL MOVE IN COLUMN OF DIVISIONS FROM THE RIGHT ALONG THE REAR," the supernumerary rank of the whole line will advance two paces.

The commander of the grenadiers, or right division of the battalion, will give the word to his company, "Left face, left wheel, quick march," and it will march out in a perpendicular direction to the line the extent of its own front; it will then receive the word "Front turn" from its leader, who will remain on the *inward* flank, unless ordered to change. The division next it will face in the same manner, and disengage its head to the rear, and when the leading division passes, it will receive the same words as before; and thus division after division will follow in column at their true distances. When the movement is from the left flank, the same operation takes place, except that the divisions face and wheel to the right.

Changing the Leading Flank of a Column by successive Divisions from the Rear.

Q. 27. How is the leading flank of a column changed by the successive march of divisions from the rear to the front?

xxvii. 159 A. If the right be in front, the left to be brought up, and the column to continue to advance, the whole is ordered to halt. At the caution, "BY SUCCESSIVE DIVISIONS, REAR WING TO THE FRONT," the officer of the left (the rear) company immediately orders, "Right face, quick march," till its left flank can freely pass near the right flank of the others; he then gives the word "Front turn, by the left," and advances close along

the right flank of the halted companies, remaining himself on the inward flank till the new column is formed, when the commanding officer will order flanks to be shifted; each company will face and move to the flank the instant the preceding company has passed.

By Passage of Double Files from the Centre.

Q. 28. How is the passage conducted by double files from the centre?

A. Upon the caution being given, "BY DOUBLE FILES FROM THE CENTRE, REAR WING TO THE FRONT," the rear company will receive from its leader the words "Inwards face, by files from the centre;" and the subdivisions will immediately face inwards, and disengage to the right and left; at the same time the commanding officer will give the word to the remaining companies, "TWO CENTRE SECTIONS OUTWARDS WHEEL, QUICK MARCH;" and the rear company will advance, through the centre of the battalion, by the opening formed by the wheel of sections. xxviii. 160

When the rear company has cleared the front company of the standing column, its leader will give the word "Form company;" and, on its being formed, the additional word "Forward." Each company will successively follow in the same manner; and the moment that the flanks of the sections which wheeled outwards are cleared by the rear of the company that precedes, the commander of the halted company will give the words "Inwards face, quick march," as before; the files of each subdivision inclining towards each other as they advance, and the whole will successively form to the front, and take up the march in column.

The kind of Column formed from Double Files.

Q. 29. At what distance will the column be that is formed by the passage of double files from the centre?

A. It ought properly to be at half distance; but in practice it is usually made a full distance column.

Post of Division Leaders in moving by Double Files.

Q. 30. Upon which flank of the double files are the leaders

of divisions to place themselves, in passing through the centre?

A. Upon that flank which is to become the pivot one: on the right, if the left of the column is to be in front; and on the left, if the right of the column is leading through.

Post of Covering Sergeants and Supernumeraries.

Q. 31. Where are the covering sergeants and supernumeraries during the movement by double files?

A. The covering sergeant of each company will lead the front rank of the right subdivision, if the left of the column is to be in front, and *vice versa*.

See Plate,
No. xii. 161

But the supernumeraries of each company, facing inwards with their subdivisions, will advance in a single rank between them, the two subdivisions leaving a sufficient space for the purpose. One of the supernumeraries will preserve this space in front, by placing himself in a line with the two centre files of the company. The king's colour, followed by the other colour and centre sergeants, will march in files in rear of their proper company.—Q. 17, Sec. xxiv.

The Covering Sergeant of each Company to take up Points for both Subdivisions of a Company.

Q. 32. When formations to line, or changes of position are made by subdivisions or sections, how many sergeants from each company ought to run out to take up points?

vii. 9. 86

A. In all such cases the covering sergeant of each company is sufficient.

In certain cases, Division Leaders give the Command to both Subdivisions of the Company.

Q. 33. Are there not cases, where only the officers commanding companies give the word of command to their rear subdivisions or sections, when in column or echelon?

xi. 2. 49

A. Yes.

Examples of these Cases.

Q. 34. State them?

A. In all cases where formations are made, either to or from subdivisions or sections *in succession*, the necessary words of command are to be given by their respective commanders. But when the subdivisions form together, as in wheeling from line into column or echelon; or from column or echelon into line, from subdivisions or sections, the commanders of companies only will give the word "Halt," &c.

It may, however, be taken as a general rule, that in all formations to line, even by subdivisions or sections in succession, the commanders of companies only can be seen in front of the line to dress the men, whether the respective commanders of subdivisions or sections have previously given the words "——— shoulders forward—halt, dress up," or not.

SECTION XIV.

OF CLOSE COLUMNS.

Post of Officers and Serjeants in close Column.

Q. 1. How are the officers and serjeants placed in close column?

A. The commander of the company is on the proper pivot flank, covered by his serjeant; the other officers and serjeants are on the reverse flank.

x. 8. 105
xxx. 1. 164

Post of the Supernumeraries on the Reverse Flank.

Q. 2. How are the supernumeraries drawn up on the reverse flank?

A. They form two deep, the officers being in the front rank.

Post of Officers and Serjeants when Column faces to the Rear.

Q. 3. If a close column is faced about to retire, do the

commanders of companies and supernumerary officers remain aligned with the proper front or rear rank?

A. They will remain in line with the *proper* front rank, and the serjeants in line with the proper rear rank.

Post of Officers when the Column moves to the Reverse Flank.

Q. 4. What becomes of the supernumeraries when the close column takes ground to a flank?

x. 8. 105 *A.* They face, and move with their companies.

Duty of Supernumeraries when the Column countermarches by Ranks.

Q. 5. What is the duty of the supernumeraries, if the close column is to be countermarched by ranks?

x. 8. 105 *A.* The supernumeraries will remain on the reverse flank, facing with their companies; but instead of countermarching with them, will countermarch on their own ground, at the word "Quick march."

Situation of the Supernumeraries when Column is cautioned to deploy.

Q. 6. Where do the supernumeraries go, when a close column receives the caution to deploy?

x. 8. 105 *A.* They remain on the reverse flank of their companies,
x. 9. 106 which they accompany in the deployment, taking their proper post in the rear, when their respective divisions "turn" towards the new line.

Distance of Companies in close Column.

Q. 7. What is the distance of companies from each other in close column?

x. 1. 102 *A.* One pace distance, measuring from the heels of the rear rank to the heels of the front rank of the succeeding division.

Forming close Column in Front or Rear of a Flank Company.

Q. 8. How is a close column of companies formed from line, either in front or rear, of either of the flank companies?

A. The caution will state which company, and whether the formation is to be in front or rear of it; and the officer of the named company shifts, if necessary, to the flank which is to become the pivot one of the column: the covering serjeant of that company places himself facing the column, *six paces* in front or rear of that officer, according to circumstances, to mark the perpendicular of the front of the column; the other commanders, if not already there, shift, also on the caution, to the flank of their companies which is to lead.

While they are doing so, the commanding officer will order "REMAINING DIVISIONS RIGHT (OR LEFT) FACE," so as to face that company, the three leading files of each company disengaging to the named flank. On the word "QUICK MARCH," the whole will move to the front, or rear, of the named company, covering serjeants stepping out when within twenty paces, to take up the distances at the proper pivot point; and each leader will proceed in the same manner, as in forming an open column from line, stopping in his own person at his covering serjeant, and giving his word, "Halt, front, dress," when the pivot flank of his company shall reach the covering serjeant, whom he immediately replaces, remaining himself perfectly steady, and giving his whole attention to the covering in column.

Q. 9. Do division leaders shift flanks by the front or rear, on the caution to form close column?

A. Whenever the caution is given to a battalion in line, to form column (by the flank march of companies), whether it be at close, quarter, or wheeling distance, they will shift flanks by the *front*.

When close Column is formed on a Central Company.

Q. 10. Suppose the column is to be formed upon a central company, how do the serjeants take their distances and covering?

A. In this case, the covering serjeants of the company, immediately in front and rear of the named company, will run out on the caution to take up their distance at their future pivot points:—the companies are faced inwards, their heads disen-

ix. 22. 98

x. 1. 102

xxx. 1. 163

xxx. 2. 165

gaging to the front and rear, and the column is formed, as already directed.

Who corrects the Covering in Column.

Q. 11. Does any particular individual correct the covering in column?

xxx. 165 A. Yes; during the formation of all such columns, a field-officer will immediately place himself in front or rear of the column, as the case may require, and will attend to the covering of the serjeants, as they successively come up.

Forming close Column on a Flank Company, facing to the Rear.

Q. 12. What operation takes place in forming close column, upon either of the two flank companies, facing to the rear?

xxx. 2. 165 A. Upon the caution, the named division will countermarch by files, by command of its own leader, in such a manner, that the flank *which is to be* the pivot, may also be the leading one during the countermarch; the covering serjeant will therefore, on the caution, place himself on that flank, and face to the rear. The commanding officer then gives the word, "REMAINING COMPANIES RIGHT (OR LEFT) FACE, RIGHT (OR LEFT) COUNTERMARCH, QUICK MARCH," and the formation goes on as before.

In the same manner, a close column may be formed from line, upon a central company facing to the rear, by countermarching, as before, the named company, and afterwards facing the remaining companies *outwards*, and countermarching them either to the right or left, as circumstances may require.

Q. 13. How is a quarter-distance column formed from a battalion in line?

xxx. 3. 166 A. In the same manner as a close column; but it may also be formed by the march of threes, in which case the leading three of the company, next the one of formation, must wheel upon the centre file in disengaging to the rear.

Close Column opening from the Front or Rear.

Q. 14. How does a close column open to half, or wheeling distance, from the front or rear?

A. If from the front, the caution will be given, the front company will stand fast, and its covering serjeant will run six paces in front of its pivot flank, as in the formation of column from line, and two battalion aids will place themselves, in like manner, six paces from the point, where the rear of the column will rest on being opened: the remaining companies will receive the word "RIGHT ABOUT FACE." After facing, the covering serjeants will place themselves at the second file from the pivot flank, division leaders aligning themselves with the proper rear rank, and the supernumeraries and colours will remain on the reverse flank till their respective companies have been halted and fronted. The word "QUICK MARCH" will then be given, and each leader will "halt, front," his own division when it has gained the required distance. xxxv. 173

If the opening is from the rear, upon the caution being given, the covering serjeants step behind the second file from the pivot flank, the supernumeraries and colours remaining as before. The rear company stands fast, and the word "QUICK MARCH" is given to the remaining companies. It is essential that the leader of the front company should march direct upon the two battalion points, that ought to have been placed for him on the caution, and each leader from the rear will halt the company in his front, on its arriving at the ordered distance. xxxv. 2. 174

Q. 15. May the column be opened in any other manner?

A. Yes; by the leading division only marching off, and each other following in succession at the ordered distance. xxxv. 2. 174

Close Column opening from a Central Company.

Q. 16. How is the opening conducted from a central company?

A. On the caution that the "COLUMN WILL OPEN TO (quarter, half, or) WHEELING DISTANCE FROM NO. — COMPANY," the covering serjeants of all the companies in front of it, will instantly move behind the second file from the pivot; the covering serjeants of the companies in rear of the named division not doing so until they receive the word, "RIGHT ABOUT FACE." The rest of the formation goes on as before, except that two aids, upon which to march, should be thrown out, both to the front and rear of the pivot flank of the open column.

871 .xxxx *Who halts the Divisions in Front and Rear of the named Division.*

Q. 17. Who halts the divisions in front and rear of the standing division?

A. The divisions in rear of the named company are halted and fronted by their own leaders; those in front of it by the leaders in their rear; so that officers may be accountable, upon all occasions, for the distances of their own companies.

Close or Quarter-distance Column taking Ground to a Flank.

Q. 18. How does a close or quarter-distance column take ground to a flank?

xxxi. 167

A. On the caution that "THE COLUMN WILL MARCH TO THE RIGHT (OR LEFT) FLANK," commanders of companies and their covering serjeants will shift, if ordered, but not otherwise, to the leading flank; but the supernumeraries and colours will remain on the reverse flank. The whole are then faced, and observe the same rule in moving to the flank, as is done in the case of an open column. On the word "HALT, FRONT," the officers and covering serjeants will return to their proper flanks. If the column is at quarter distance, it may move to a flank by threes. When an open column moves to a flank, commanders of companies will invariably shift to the leading flank on the caution.

Column changing Front and Wings by the Wheel, and countermarch round the Centre.

Q. 19. How does a close or quarter-distance column change its front and wings, by the wheel and countermarch of subdivisions round the centre?

xxxiv. 1. 171

A. Upon the caution being given "COUNTERMARCH BY SUBDIVISIONS ROUND THE CENTRE," two aids will be placed as points at the centre, close in front of the front and rear divisions, facing the pivot flank, to mark the point at which the respective divisions are to wheel the half-circle, and the point at which the leading subdivisions are to "Halt," when the countermarch is completed.

The commanding officer will then give the word "RIGHT (OR LEFT) SUBDIVISIONS RIGHT ABOUT FACE," and on the word

“QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH,” the whole step off, and the right and left subdivisions wheel in succession to the right (if right in front); the leading subdivision only of each column receiving the word “Wheel” from its leader, and it advances at a shortened pace, after the wheel, feeling to the pivot flank. When the leading subdivision is in a line upon the new front of the column, the whole receive from the commanding officer the words, “HALT, FRONT, DRESS,” which should instantly follow the wheel of the last subdivision, when, if the countermarch has been performed correctly, the companies will stand upon their proper ground. The word “FRONT” applies to the reverse subdivisions only.

The same Movement on the March.

Q. 20. May not the front and wings of a close or quarter-distance column be thus changed on the march?

A. Yes; it may be done in a similar manner, by the commanding officer giving the word (supposing the right in front), “RIGHT SUBDIVISIONS RIGHT ABOUT TURN;” upon which the respective columns of subdivisions wheel the half-circle on the moveable pivot; the commander of the leading subdivision only, of each of the two columns, giving the word “wheel,” and “forward,” when the wheel is completed; the subdivisions in the rear wheeling and moving forward without any word of command, the commanding officer giving to the whole the words “FRONT TURN FORWARD” five paces before the subdivisions arrive in line, when the whole advance in the new direction.

xxxiv. 2. 172

Post of the Supernumeraries, when a Column wheels and countermarches round the Centre.

Q. 21. Where are the supernumeraries, when a column wheels round the centre?

A. They remain in their usual place, upon the reverse flank in close column, and in rear of their respective companies, in quarter-distance column; but when a close column receives the caution to change its front and wings, in any of the above-mentioned cases, the supernumerary officer who happens to be on the outer flank of each company, will take charge of the reverse subdivision.

SECTION XV.

DOUBLE COLUMNS.

Line formed sooner on a Centre than a Flank Division.

Q. 1. How much sooner may the line of battalion be formed, on the two centre divisions, or subdivisions of a double column, than on either of the flank divisions of a single column?

ix. 4 90 A. In one half of the time.

Whether single or double Column is preferable in advancing to an Attack?

Q. 2. Whether, then, is the single or double column preferable, in advancing to an attack?

ix. 4. 90 A. Where the front is open, the double column is to be preferred.

Disadvantage of the double Column in Defiles.

Q. 3. Does the double column offer the same advantage in passing defiles?

A. No; for, if the defile narrows less than the breadth of double sections, it is to be feared the intermixture of files will cause great confusion.

General Rules applicable to all double Columns.

Q. 4. What general rules are applicable to all double columns formed on the march?

xviii. 3. 138 A. 1. *Upon the Caution to form double Column.*—Upon the caution to “FORM DOUBLE COLUMN,” the colours and directing serjeants will fall back to the rear of the centre, and remain there till the battalion is put in motion, to re-form line.

xviii. 3. 138 A. 2. *Officers shifting Flanks.*—Officers in charge of subdivisions shift their flanks, both in forming the column and

re-forming the line, from echellon, during the wheel of the subdivisions.

A. 3. Commanders of Companies dress both subdivisions in line.—The commanders of companies only remain in front, to dress their second subdivisions, as they come into line from double column, either by the echellon march, or by deployment; the immediate leaders of them remaining in the rear, after giving the words, “Halt, dress up.”

A. 4. Commanders of Companies are always in charge of their leading subdivisions.—When the subdivisions of the battalion wheel inwards, to form double column from the halt, the commanders of companies will take charge of their *leading* subdivisions, whether they be the right or left subdivisions of their companies; and the division leaders in the right wing will place themselves, on the caution, in rear of the right flank of their left subdivisions, ready to do so during the wheel. xviii. 3. 138

A. 5. The proper left is the directing flank.—The proper left, unless otherwise ordered, being always the governing flank of a double column, to which the men feel, every command to a double subdivision in column will be given by the officer or serjeant on that flank. xviii. 3. 139
xix. 2. 141

A. 6. Double columns are at the distance at which the single column is.—Unless ordered to the contrary, double columns are formed at the distance of the divisions, of which each column is composed. xviii. 3. 139

A. 7. An officer to be on each flank of the subdivisions.—In double column, an officer or serjeant will be on each flank. xviii. 3. 138

A. 8. When caution is given to form line.—Whenever a halted double column receives the caution to form line on the two centre subdivisions, the covering serjeants of the two centre companies will run out, and facing inwards, will mark the outer flank of their respective companies; taking, each, *one full* pace more than the extent of their companies, to leave room for the colours.

A. 9. Distance kept for the men only in the second subdivision of each company.—In a double column of subdivisions, the distance between the leading, and the rear subdivision of each company, must be taken and kept on the march, *for the men only*, none being required for the officer.

A. 10. When double column forms line to the right flank.—When it is intended to form line to the *right* flank, it will be expedient to make the double column move previously a few paces “BY THE RIGHT,” that the distances and covering may be accurately taken from that flank, before the line is

formed, which they cannot otherwise be, from the inequality of subdivisions, &c.

Double Column formed on the Centre.

Q. 5. How is a double column formed on the centre?

A. It may be formed in various ways, either halted or on the march.

Formation of a halted double Column from Line.

Q. 6. State how a halted double column of subdivisions is formed from line?

xviii. 3. 138

A. The commanding officer will give the caution, "FORM DOUBLE COLUMN OF SUBDIVISIONS IN REAR (OR FRONT) OF THE TWO CENTRE SUBDIVISIONS," upon which the colours fall to the rear, and the officers in the right wing shift in rear of the left flank of their left subdivisions, and the covering serjeant of the left centre company will place himself, facing his company, six paces in front of the *right* hand man of his *left* subdivision; the commanding officer will then give the word "REMAINING SUBDIVISIONS INWARDS FACE," upon which the heads of subdivisions will disengage to the rear (or front) after facing. On the word "QUICK MARCH," the right centre subdivision will close to the left, the space occupied by the colours; the remaining subdivisions proceeding, led by their officers or serjeants, towards their proper places in the double column, a serjeant from each subdivision running out in proper time to mark their outer flanks: but the serjeants on the left of the double column are to be specially responsible for the covering and distances, the serjeants on the right flanks aligning themselves with them.

As soon as the head of each subdivision has arrived at the serjeant, who marks its outer flank in the column, the leader will stop there, allowing his subdivision to pass him in rear of the serjeant; and, at the proper time, give the word "Halt, front, dress," when the whole will dress by the left.

Advancing in double Column from Line halted.

Q. 7. If it be intended that the battalion, halted in line, shall advance in double column of subdivisions from the centre, how is the movement executed?

xviii. 3. 138

A. Upon the caution being given, the colours will fall to

the rear of the centre, division leaders in the right wing placing themselves in rear of the *right* flank of their left subdivisions; the commanding officer will then give the word, "TWO CENTRE SUBDIVISIONS TO THE FRONT, REMAINING SUBDIVISIONS RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK MARCH," when the whole will be thrown at once into movement; the division leaders in the left wing shifting, during the wheel, to the left flanks of their leading subdivisions by the front, and all the subdivision leaders taking their proper places in the column, the command "FORWARD" being given when the subdivisions have wheeled square into column; but the two centre subdivisions will take short steps of only twenty inches, till the two succeeding subdivisions, having completed their *second* wheel, into the direction of the double column, receive from their own leaders the word "Forward," when the two centre subdivisions will take the usual length of pace. Each subdivision will have an officer at the outer flank; and during the advance, the interval between the centre subdivisions will be closed to the directing flank.

The same Formation from a Line in Motion.

Q. 8. What difference is there, if the line be in motion, at the time when it is necessary to order an advance in double column?

A. There is no difference.

Retiring in double Column from both Flanks, Rear Rank in Front.

Q. 9. If it be intended to retire from line in double column of subdivisions from both flanks, rear rank in front, how is it done?

A. On the command being given by the commanding officer, "RETIRE FROM BOTH FLANKS BY SUBDIVISIONS IN REAR OF THE CENTRE," the two outward subdivisions of the battalion face to the right about, by word of command from the respective officers or serjeants who are afterwards to lead them, and proceed as directed in Q. 25, p. 77; on reaching the outward flanks of the two centre subdivisions, they wheel outwards upon points placed for that purpose, and proceed in double column to the rear, the subdivision leaders changing to the outward flanks during this last wheel, and the whole dressing to the right (the proper left): the subdivisions

follow in succession from the flanks; the two centre subdivisions receive the word "Right about face" from the commander of the left centre company; the colours instantly fall three paces to their proper rear, and the same officer gives to the two centre subdivisions, "Quick march," when the preceding subdivisions have completed their wheel. As in this movement a loss of distance cannot be prevented, the subdivisions will continue to retire, with the usual length of step, until the whole column be formed, when the commanding officer will order the leading subdivisions to step short, till the proper distances be regained.

Advantage of such a mode of Retiring.

Q. 10. What peculiar advantage does the formation and retreat of a column in this manner present?

A. That of enabling a fire to be kept up, by the halted subdivisions in line, during the whole movement.

Line formed from double Column.

Q. 11. How is line formed from a double column facing to its proper front?

xviii. 4. 139

A. On the caution, "FORM LINE ON THE TWO CENTRE SUBDIVISIONS," the two centre subdivisions will each take *three* side-steps outwards, by command of the officer on their left, to make room for the colours, and will halt without any word; the covering serjeants of the two centre companies running out at the same time, and facing inwards, to mark the outward flanks of their companies, an aid from each flank of the battalion covering them, and the centre serjeant, who will step to his front and face to his left; the officer on the outer flank of the left centre subdivision quickly, but accurately, dressing both subdivisions, on the centre serjeant and covering serjeant of the right centre company, and the distant point on the right. The rear subdivisions will move off by the command, "REMAINING SUBDIVISIONS RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH, FORWARD," and be brought into line by their respective leaders conducting them on their inner flanks, till they reach the outer rear-rank man of the formed line, when they will give the word "Right" and "Left shoulders forward," till the subdivisions make the necessary wheel, and then the word "Halt, dress up;" the subdivisions of each wing forming line upon the centre, and the covering

serjeants of companies running out, at the proper time, to mark the outer flank of each company.

The officers commanding the two centre companies, during the formation, will remain on the outer flanks of the two centre subdivisions, to be ready, from thence, to dress their second subdivisions; after which they will return by the front to their proper places in line.

Deployment into Line from double Column.

Q. 12. May not line be formed from double column by deployment?

A. Yes; the double column may be closed to close or quarter distance, and deployed, like a single column, upon the centre (see Sec. xvii.), the rear subdivisions being faced outwards. xviii. 4. 139

Forming Line to a Flank from double Column.

Q. 13. If it be required that a halted double column should form line to either flank, how is it done?

A. If to the right flank, upon the caution being given, the usual distant point will be thrown out, in front of the outer flank of the right wing, and the covering serjeants of the two centre companies will run out, and mark the left flank of their companies, exactly covering the officers on the right flank of the double column. The commanding officer will then give the word, "RIGHT WING LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, LEFT WING QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH; upon which, the leader of the right subdivision of each company in the right wing will fall to the rear, while the commanders of companies in that wing will run by the nearest way, during the wheel, to the right of their companies, where they will "Halt" and "Dress" both their subdivisions in line, upon their pivots and the distant battalion point; the right flank of the battalion, in that case, appearing to be the point of general appui. xviii. 5. 139

In the mean time, on the word "QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH," the leaders of the left wing subdivisions will shift to the inner flank by the rear, giving the word "By the right," and leading their men in column along the rear of the right wing, and will form line in succession on the left of the right wing, by giving the words "Left shoulders forward—Forward—Halt, dress up," the covering serjeant running out as usual.

In the same manner may line be formed to the left flank;

the commanders of companies in the left wing, dressing their men in line from the left flank, which then becomes the point of appui.

Q. 14. How is line formed from double column to a flank, if the double column is in motion?

xviii. 5. 139

A. In the same manner as from the halt; the commanding officer giving the word (if to the right), "FORM LINE TO THE RIGHT—RIGHT WING, LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD."

Q. 15. May a double column change its front to the rear, by the wheel and countermarch round the centre?

xviii. 140

A. Yes, it may, in the same manner as a single column; but in general it will be better to change the front, by simply facing the column to the right about.

SECTION XVI.

INCREASING AND DIMINISHING THE FRONT OF COLUMNS.

Q. 1. Is there any general rule for increasing and diminishing the front of a column?

xvi. 55

A. Yes; the pivot subdivisions invariably double up and extend.

Increasing the Front of a halted Column, supposing the Right in Front.

Q. 2. What word of command is given, to form column of companies from a halted column of subdivisions?

xvi. 54

A. On the caution from the commanding officer, "FORM COMPANIES," the covering serjeant of each will run out, to mark the pivot flank. The commanding officer will then order "LEFT SUBDIVISIONS, LEFT HALF FACE, QUICK MARCH," and the leading files, as well as the commanders of companies, will march on the covering serjeants. When the left subdivisions have obliqued so as to gain the line of the right sub-

divisions, the commanders give the word, "Halt, front, dress up," and take post on the pivot flank.

Diminishing Right in Front.

Q. 3. State how a halted column of companies forms subdivisions.

A. On the command "FORM SUBDIVISIONS," the senior subalterns instantly fall back, to mark the points where the left flanks of the pivot or left subdivisions are to rest. The commanding officer, in the mean time, orders, "LEFT SUBDIVISIONS, RIGHT ABOUT THREE QUARTERS FACE, QUICK MARCH," and the leading files of the left subdivisions march in the diagonal direction, until the pivot files reach the officers who have taken up their distance and covering, and who, when they reach them, give the words, "Halt, front, dress." During the movement of the left subdivisions, the commanders of companies move to the pivot flank of the right subdivisions.

N.B. Both in increasing and diminishing the front of an open column halted, the rear-rank man of the pivot file of the *reverse* subdivision falls back and covers the third file of his subdivision, resuming his place as soon as the flanks are clear.

Commander of the second Subdivision.

Q. 4. What becomes of the officers or serjeants commanding the second subdivisions, when a column of subdivisions forms column of companies?

A. On the caution, they go to the rear of their pivot files, and there remain steady, till the subdivisions are put in motion, when they will remove to their proper place in the column of companies.

Column left in Front.

Q. 5. What is the difference when a column of subdivisions, left in front, is to form companies?

A. The only difference is, that the *right* subdivisions half face to the right, and the formation goes on as already directed.

Increasing the Front of a Column on the March.

Q. 6. How is the front of an open column of subdivisions increased on the march, suppose right in front?

xvii. 56 A. When the commanding officer gives the word of command, "FORM COMPANIES, LEFT SUBDIVISIONS LEFT HALF TURN, DOUBLE MARCH," they instantly move off at the double march; and as soon as their inward flanks are open, they receive from the commanders of companies the word "Front turn," and when in line with the right subdivisions, "Quick," the commanders taking post on the pivot flank to which they should have moved during the double march of their rear subdivisions.

Diminishing the Front on the March.

Q. 7. State how a column of companies forms one of subdivisions on the march.

xvii. 56 A. On the caution "FORM SUBDIVISIONS," followed by the word (if the right is in front), "LEFT SUBDIVISIONS MARK TIME, RIGHT HALF TURN," they will move accordingly; and when properly doubled behind the right subdivisions, the senior subalterns of companies, who will have fallen back to subdivision distance, will give the word to the left subdivisions, "Front turn," placing themselves on the pivot flank.

The same rule, reversed, is applicable to a column left in front.

Q. 8. Does the commanding officer give the word upon all occasions to the subdivisions to double up and extend?

A. Yes, when it is intended that the front of the whole column shall be increased or diminished at once; but if it is to be done by companies in succession, the whole formation will take place by the command of the division leaders, as they arrive at the point where the leading company performed it.

Q. 9. Do the pivot subdivisions invariably extend in *double* time?

A. If the column is moving in quick time, they do; but if it be marching in slow time, the pivot subdivisions come up in *quick* time.

Columns of Companies forming Sections.

Q. 10. How are open columns of companies formed into

columns of sections, and columns of sections formed into those of companies?

A. In the same manner as has been already explained, xvii. 56 except that the commanders of subdivisions will give the different words to their proper sections "Front turn," "quick" or "slow."

First by forming Subdivisions.

Q. 11. May the front of a column of companies be at once contracted to that of sections?

A. No; it must first form column of subdivisions, and afterwards one of sections.

Breaking off Files.

Q. 12. When a road or defile becomes so narrow as to render it necessary to break off files from the flank of a column, what command is given, suppose the column right in front?

A. On the leading subdivision or section arriving within a few paces of the point where the front must be contracted, it receives from the commanding officer the word, "BREAK OFF THREE, FOUR, OR FIVE FILES," upon which its commander orders "Three, four, or five files on the left, right turn, left wheel;" each subdivision or section, on reaching the same spot, proceeds in the same manner. In order to resume the original front when the defile widens, the word to be given by each section leader is, "Two, three, or four files to the front," when they come to the front in succession, in double time, if the main body is marching in quick time. xviii. 57

From the Pivot Flank.

Q. 13. Is there any rule as to the flank from which files should break off?

A. Yes; they invariably break off from the pivot flank of the column; but circumstances may sometimes render it necessary to break off files from the reverse flank. xviii. 57

Q. 14. Where is the situation of the covering serjeant when files are broken off?

A. He covers his officer till all the files are again brought up. xviii. 58

SECTION XVII.

DEPLOYMENTS FROM COLUMN.

- Q. 1. May columns be deployed on any base?
 174. A. No; they must invariably be deployed on the base of the *front* company.

Deploying on the Front Division.

Q. 2. How is a close column deployed on the front division?

x. 9. 11. 12
 106
 174
 xxxvi. 1. 175
 A. If the column is right in front, the battalion point will be taken up on the caution, in the prolongation of the front division, just beyond the point where the left of the line is to rest, the commander of the front division removing to its right flank by the front, and his two serjeants placing themselves on the flanks of the company as base points, facing to the right; on the caution, the rear rank of the whole column will lock up.

During this movement the commanding officer will give the word, "REMAINING COMPANIES LEFT FACE, QUICK MARCH;" the companies step off, keeping their heads dressed by the right, that being the flank next the company on which the deployment is made; division leaders and their covering serjeants being placed as in moving to a flank in files.

The officer commanding the second division allows it, on the word "QUICK MARCH," to proceed, led by the covering serjeant, a space equal to its own front, when he gives the command "Front turn," his covering serjeant having previously run out, as soon as half the front of the company had cleared the division on which it was to form, and taken up the distance in the line, covering and facing, in the usual manner, the two base points; the officer then steps forward, and placing himself in front of the standing division, will give from its left flank the word "Halt, dress up," as soon as he perceives the front rank of his division to be one pace behind the front rank

of the preceding company. When the officer has quickly dressed his men upon his serjeant and the distant point, he will take his proper post in the line. In this manner every company proceeds till the whole line is formed; but, in deploying, care must be taken by each commander to give the word "Halt, front," or "Front turn," to his company, at the moment its rear clears the outer flank of the preceding division, or even before, if he observes that that other division, by having improperly opened out during the flank march, or by not having been halted in time, requires to close to its inner flank. Similar rules are applicable to the deployment on the front company of a column left in front.

Q. 3. Are close columns always deployed in files?

A. Yes; they are so, necessarily.

Deploying on the Rear Company.

Q. 4. How is the deployment performed on the rear company, supposing the right in front?

A. The caution being given, the base points will be taken up in prolongation of the front company, by the serjeants of the named rear one; the remaining companies will then face and march as before, and the moment the front of the rear company is clear, the leader will give the word "No. — double march," and will "halt, dress up," at his base points; each other company will "halt, front," until it is uncovered, and will then advance in *quick* time on the alignment, observing all the detail for deployment already given. xxxvi. 2. 176

Q. 5. When do the covering serjeants run out, in the last case, to take up the distance for their companies?

A. Not till they have halted and fronted. x. 11. 106

Deployment on a Central Company.

Q. 6. State how the deployment is made on a central company.

A. It is conducted in the same manner as on a flank company, except that the battalion points must be given to both flanks, and the divisions of each wing face outwards. xxxvi. 2. 176

Deployment of a Quarter-distance Column.

Q. 7. How is a quarter-distance column deployed?

H 2

xxxvi. 2. 176 *A.* It may be deployed like a close column, by files or by threes, in which last case, if the deployment is made on any except the front division, the base points must be taken up *three* paces in front of the front division.

Q. 8. State how a quarter-distance column, right in front, is deployed on the front division.

A. On the caution being given, the points are taken up as in Question 12, and if the deployment is to be by threes, the commanding officer will give the word, "REMAINING COMPANIES, THREES, RIGHT SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK OR DOUBLE MARCH, FORWARD!" As the front of each company is cleared, it will receive from its leader the word "Left shoulders forward—forward!" and when within *one* pace of the line, if moving in quick time, or *two* paces, if moving in double time, "Halt, dress up," the covering serjeant running out in the usual manner.

Q. 9. How is the deployment made on a central or rear division?

xxxvi. 3. 4 *A.* The caution ought to state whether the deployment is
178 to be made in file or by threes, as, in the former case, the base
x. 6. 106 points will be taken up as in close column, and in the latter case, they will be placed three paces in front of the front division, and the deployment will proceed in other respects as in the last question, except that each company, after receiving the word "Shoulders forward" from its own leader, will be halted till its front is clear.

Q. 10. When and how do division leaders and their covering serjeants shift to the leading flank in deployment?

xxxvi. 2. 177 *A.* In *all* deployments of column, whether close or quarter-distance, they shift flanks, on the caution, the officer by *the front*, the covering serjeant by the rear, of his company, the latter facing *outwards* in doing so.

Q. 11. Do division leaders and their covering serjeants, in deploying to the reverse flank, place themselves between the supernumeraries and their companies?

A. No; they place themselves outside the supernumeraries.

Q. 12. Does the rear rank lock up, on the caution to deploy a quarter-distance column?

xxxvi. 2. 177 *A.* No; only in the case of a close column being to be deployed.

Q. 13. May a close or quarter-distance column be deployed to either flank?

x. 12. 106 *A.* Yes; and both officers and men should be accustomed to the inversion of the companies.

SECTION XVIII.

CHANGES OF POSITION OF THE BATTALION FROM LINE,
BY MOVEMENTS OF THE OPEN COLUMN, AND BY THE
FLANK MARCH OF COMPANIES BY THREES OR FILES.

*Changing Front to the Right, by bringing forward the
Left.*

Q. 1. How may the battalion in line change position to the right, on the right halted company, by throwing forward the whole left, and by the flank march of companies by threes?

A. Previous to any such formation, a point will be placed
twenty or thirty paces beyond the flank, or other point in the
line, upon which the change is to be made; these two points
determine the direction of the new line. vii. 8. 86
xxiv. 1. 154

If the change of front is to be at right angles with the old line, the right company stands fast; if oblique to it, that company will wheel backwards, on the *right* flank, so many paces as will make it perpendicular to the new direction. The commanding officer then gives the word "FORM OPEN COLUMN IN FRONT OF THE RIGHT COMPANY; REMAINING COMPANIES RIGHT FACE (OR THREES LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD)—QUICK MARCH!" On the caution, the covering serjeant of the right company will run out to mark the distance of his own company; on facing, the remaining companies disengage their heads to the left; at the word "QUICK MARCH!" the whole step off; the officer of No. 1 leads his company upon the covering serjeant of the grenadiers, his own covering serjeant, running forward when at the distance of twenty paces, marks the distance of his company, covers correctly, faces to the right about, and gives the point for No. 2 to march upon; and so in succession,—officers giving the words "Halt, front, dress," when their leading flanks have reached the covering serjeant of the preceding company, who, on the word "Eyes front!" will run by the reverse flank of his own company to his proper place in the column; the whole will then stand, an open column left in front.

In all movements of this kind, officers will be careful to lead their companies obliquely to the point where their *reverse* flanks will rest, that from thence they may march in a direction parallel to the companies already formed upon the covering serjeants.

Changing Front to the Left, by throwing back the Left.

Q. 2. Explain the method of changing the front of the battalion in line to the left, on the right halted company, by throwing back the whole left, and by the flank march of companies by threes or files.

xxiv. 4. 156

A. It is done on the same principle that has been already shown; the companies disengaging to the right after facing, forming column in *rear* of the right company by marching on *their own* covering serjeants, who will run out in time to mark the pivot (left) flank.

Changing Front on a Central Company to the Left.

Q. 3. What difference is there, when the battalion is to change its front on a *central* halted company, by the flank march of companies by threes, and that one wing is thrown forward, and the other backward?

xxiv. 3. 155

A. If the line is to change its front to the left flank, the points of direction will be taken on the left flank of the central company; that company will stand fast, or wheel backwards on *the left*, as already explained, so many paces as may make it perpendicular to an oblique direction. The wings will wheel inwards by threes, both wings disengaging to the *right*, and the covering serjeants of the named company, and of those in front of it, mark the pivot flanks of the companies respectively in front of them, the serjeants of the companies in rear of the named company, the pivot flanks of their own companies; all other changes of front, by means of the open column, are made on the same principle.

xxiv. 154
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SECTION XIX.

A BATTALION IN LINE CHANGING ITS FRONT TO THE
REAR UPON THE CENTRE.*Change Front to the Rear on the Centre.*

Q. 1. How does a battalion in line change its front to the rear upon the centre?

A. Upon the caution "CHANGE FRONT TO THE REAR UPON THE CENTRE," the colours will countermarch, the covering serjeants of the two centre companies change places, and take up the points of formation to the new front, covering upon the front-rank centre serjeant, who will step to the new front, and face to *his left* for the purpose. The leaders of these companies will then, without hurry, face them outwards, and give, each to his own company, the word "Right countermarch, quick march." Both countermarch to the right by files, pass each other by *the right*, and in rear of the colours and centre serjeants, and having changed ground, are halted, fronted, and dressed, by their two leaders, from the centre, upon their covering serjeants and the distant battalion points. xxiii. 153

The commanding officer will give, in the mean while, to the other companies, the word "THREES, RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, RIGHT AND LEFT COUNTERMARCH, QUICK, (OR DOUBLE) MARCH;" upon which the companies of both wings will countermarch to the right and left, and will pass each other by *the left*, those of the right wing describing a circle in their countermarch, the depth of a subdivision, to leave room for the others to pass. Each division will be halted in its relative position to the new front, by the word from its leader "Right—left shoulders forward—forward—halt, dress up," and will form upon the covering serjeants, who will run out at the distance of twenty paces, as usual.

SECTION XX.

OF MOVEMENTS IN ECHELLON.

Two kinds of Echelon.

Q. 1. How many kinds of echelon are there?

A. Two; the direct and oblique.

*Direct Echelon.*Q. 2. What is it to be in *direct* echelon?

xi. 2. 108 A. When the divisions of a battalion march off perpendicularly and successively from line to front or rear.

*Oblique Echelon.*Q. 3. When are divisions said to be in *oblique* echelon?xi. 2. 108 A. The oblique or wheeled echelon is when the divisions of a battalion, either in line or column, are previously wheeled into an oblique direction, for the purpose of gaining ground to a flank; *i.e.* when they are wheeled any number of paces less than the quarter-circle.

Post of Division Leaders in Echelon.

Q. 4. On which flank are division leaders to be in echelon?

xi. 10. 112
xliv. 2. 190 A. In echelon, whether *direct* or *oblique*, all the officers commanding companies are on the *inner* flank, that being the flank towards which the change of position is to be made.

An Example of it in direct Echelon.

Q. 5. Give an example of it in direct echelon.

A. If a battalion advances in *direct* echelon of divisions

from the left flank, the commander of the left, and every other division, will place himself on the left flank.

Exceptions to the Rule.

Q. 6. Is this rule universal?

A. In the case of the direct echellon, it is ; but when a line or column is thrown into oblique echellon, to gain ground to a flank, with the intention of resuming the original line of march, officers commanding companies are not required to shift to their inner flanks. xi. 10. 112 xxxviii. 180

When the Echellon is temporary, Officers do not shift Flanks.

Q. 7. Does this rule also apply to the movement "BY SECTIONS RIGHT (OR LEFT)," or to any other echellon movement by subdivisions or sections?

A. Yes, it does ; whether the sections are formed from line or column. xi. 10. 112

When Division Leaders shift Flanks.

Q. 8. When do officers shift to their inner flanks in echellon?

A. In *direct* echellon, they shift on the command, "ADVANCE (OR RETIRE) IN DIRECT ECHELLON OF DIVISIONS AT (QUARTER, HALF, OR) WHEELING DISTANCE FROM THE LEFT (OR RIGHT) FLANK;" at which moment also, the officer commanding the company on the named flank will put it in motion, each succeeding company following at the ordered distance.

Division Leaders shift Flanks, when the Echellon changes its Front.

Q. 9. If a *direct* echellon, changes, on the march, its front to a flank, by which the leading division becomes the rear of the echellon, do commanders of companies still remain on the same flank?

A. No ; they must shift during the wheel, so as always to be on the *inner* flank.

When Flanks are shifted in oblique Echellon formed from the Halt.

Q. 10. When do commanders of companies shift to their inner flanks, when oblique echellon is formed from the halt?

xxxvii. 7. 178

A. On the caution being given as to the number of paces to be wheeled, they will move by the rear to the pivot or inner flank, from which they will halt and dress their divisions, on the completion of the wheel.

On the March.

Q. 11. When do division or subdivision leaders shift to their inner flanks, when a line or column is thrown into echellon on the march?

A. They shift during the wheel.

Wheeling from a halted Line or Column into Echellon.

Q. 12. What is the rule for wheeling divisions, either from a halted line or column, into echellon?

xi. 9. 111

A. In order to have a general rule applicable to companies of unequal strength, as well as to those which are equalized, it is laid down by Regulation, that each covering serjeant, having previously placed himself before or behind (as the case may require), the eighth file from the standing flank, shall take the prescribed number of paces from the centre of that file, on the arc of the circle, and thereby become a direction for the company to wheel up to, and halt.

As *eight* paces from the eighth file, described on the arc, complete the quarter-circle, so four paces give the eighth, and two paces the sixteenth of the circle; all which are wheels often made from open column, or from line, to change to a position perpendicular, or oblique, to the one quitted.

Length of Pace in measuring the obliquity of an Echellon.

Q. 13. What is the length of each pace the serjeant takes, on the arc of the circle, from the eighth file, in measuring an echellon, and whether does he move to that file from the front or rear of the company?

xi. 9. 111

A. The covering serjeant will go by the *nearest way*,

whether it be by the front or rear, to the eighth file, from which he will take his ordered number of paces of *thirty inches* each; but not till he receive the word "Steady" from the mounted officer on the flank, who will give it, as soon as he sees the serjeants ready to step out.

The Serjeant, in measuring to the Rear, afterwards fronts.

Q. 14. If the serjeant measures his paces to the rear, does he remain afterwards faced to the rear?

A. No; after taking the required number of paces to the rear, he will come to the same front, with his division; and when the division in wheeling has reached him, he will give the word "Halt" in a low tone of voice, which must be repeated by the division leader, as the word of command. xliii. 1. 187]

Covering serjeants, after taking the required number of paces, ought to be in line with each other; if not, they will be corrected by a mounted officer from the leading flank.

When covering Serjeants move to the outer Flanks in Echellon.

Q. 15. When do the covering serjeants, in such cases, remove to the outer flank of their divisions?

A. When their divisions, having completed the wheel, have received from their commanders the word "Eyes front." Ibid.

Manner of preserving Covering and Distance in oblique Echellon.

Q. 16. How are the covering and distances of companies preserved during the march in oblique echellon?

A. In marching in oblique echellon, division leaders must not expect to preserve their distances and parallelism, if they attempt to move perpendicularly on any particular file of the preceding company, which is liable to several errors; but they will keep their covering and distances from the line of division leaders, by glancing their eye over their *outer* shoulder; and it is to be remembered, that the correctness of the march in echellon depends no less on the leader of the second division from the front, than on the leader of the first division. And as, in every oblique echellon, the oblique distance, from flank xi. 14. 113

to flank of the companies, is equal to the front of the preceding division, it may further assist division leaders, in judging their distances, to state that in every echellon of the eighth of a circle (which is the most common degree of obliquity required in practice), the distance between the inner flank of any division, and the file in the preceding division which is perpendicular to it, is equal to the distance between that file and the inner flank of *his* division, so that every division leader ought to be exactly perpendicular to the file whose number from the inner or pivot flank forms seven-tenths of the number of files in the company; if, for example, the company consists of ten files, the commander of the succeeding company will be exactly in rear of the seventh file from the inner flank; if of twenty files, in rear of the fourteenth file, and so on in the same proportion.

Wheeling back into Line from Echellon.

Q. 17. What rule is prescribed for wheeling back by companies from an oblique echellon into line?

xxxviii. 180

A. When a battalion, after having gained ground to a flank in echellon, is halted for the purpose of wheeling back its divisions into line; upon the caution "WHEEL BACK INTO LINE," the pivot men face into the line, and the commanders take one step forward: at the word "QUICK MARCH," each company wheels back to the pivot of the contiguous division, and on receiving from its commander, from his own pivot flank, the word "Halt, dress," eyes are turned towards him. The line being completely formed, officers and serjeants (if not already there) will move to their respective places in line, by the rear, except in the occasional case of wheeling into line, in the middle of a change of position, when commanders of companies will remain on their inner flanks, ready to fire, and to resume the march in echellon.

When Echellon wheels back into Line, no Points are thrown out.

Q. 18. When divisions, in a halted echellon, wheel backward or forward *together* into line, without the intention of resuming the echellon, do not covering serjeants take up points upon which to cover and dress, as in other formations to line?

A. No, it is unnecessary; the pivot man of each company

being sufficient for that purpose, who will hold up his right arm, if it be an echelon of companies.

When covering Serjeants run out to take up points, in forming Line from Echelon.

Q. 19. Is there any rule, as to when the covering serjeants ought to run out, to take up points of covering and distances for their companies, when a battalion forms line upon any fixed company, by the echelon march, either *direct* or *oblique*?

A. Yes; the covering serjeants will run out, to take up such points, when the inner flanks of their companies are within *twenty* paces of the division last formed. xl. 183

When Divisions bring Shoulders forward, in forming Line from Echelon.

Q. 20. When ought commanders of companies to give the word "Right (or left) shoulders forward," in moving into line from oblique echelon?

A. If moving to the front, they ought never to give the word till they reach the rear-rank man, on the outer flank of the division last formed; and, if marching to the rear, commanders of divisions or subdivisions will move on, till the inner flank of their *proper* front rank is in a line with the rear rank of the formed line, when they will give the word "Right (or left) shoulders forward;" and, in all such cases, the interval in line for the commander of his own or the contiguous company, while he is in front, dressing his men, and his covering serjeant is occupied in giving a point upon which to dress, should be kept by some other serjeant, who will place himself on the outer flank of the company, at the moment the covering serjeant goes to the front; or, for want of a serjeant, the outer flank rear-rank man of this company will step nimbly to the front, for the purpose, during the wheel of the division. Ibid.

"Sections Right" and "Left."

Q. 21. What command is given when it is wished that a battalion on the march, either in line or column, should gain ground to the front and flank by sections, and afterwards resume the march in line or column?

xxii. 63 *A.* The word "SECTIONS RIGHT" (or LEFT), upon which the
 xxxii. 167 pivot men of sections mark time two paces, while the sections
 xlv. 1. 191 bring forward their left shoulders, and at the third pace the
 word "FORWARD" will be given. When the commanding
 officer wishes the march in line to be resumed, he gives the
 command "RE-FORM LINE," or, in the drill of a single com-
 pany, the word "FORM COMPANY," when the pivots of sections
 mark time as before, and the whole wheel back, and when in
 line, or column, they receive the word "FORWARD." When
 this movement is made from column, the officers commanding
 companies will remain on their proper pivot flanks; and if
 the column takes ground to the reverse flank, the covering
 and parallelism will be taken up on the reverse flanks, by the
 senior supernumerary officer, on the outer flank of each com-
 pany.

To resume the march in column, the command to be given
 is "REFORM COLUMN."

*Degree of Wheel into Echelon to form Line on a
 named Division.*

Q. 22. What rule is prescribed for the degree of wheel that
 divisions ought to make into echelon, for the purpose of form-
 ing line upon a given division?

xxxix. 181 *A.* In order to place the leading division of the echelon a
 182 right angles with the line, between its inner flank and the
 outer flank of the company on which it is to be formed, it
 ought to make only *one half* the wheel of the company named
 as the base of the formation.

Explanation of this Rule.

Q. 23. To explain this more particularly, suppose a battalion,
 in oblique echelon of companies, is required to form line on
 the leading division, how is it to be done?

xxxix. 182 *A.* If the leading division stands fast, it will be necessary to
 wheel back the remaining companies on their *inner* flanks *one*
 half the number of paces they had formerly wheeled forward;
 or, if these companies are not to change their obliquity, it is
 indispensable that the leading company should wheel *forward*
 the same number of paces, on its *inner* flank, that it has already
 wheeled.

When Line is formed on the Rear Division.

Q. 24. What difference is there, if the formation to line is to be made on the rear division of the oblique echellon?

A. If the rear company does not move, the remaining companies will be wheeled *forward*, on the flank *next* to the named company, one half the number of paces they formerly wheeled; or they may be faced about, and wheeled backward, in like manner, upon the same flank.

xxxix. 181
182

But if the named company is wheeled, either backward or forward, a certain number of paces, the remaining companies will correspond in such a manner to this movement, that each company in echellon shall form a right angle with the line that joins its inner flank, to the outer flank of the company last formed in line. As long as this rule is rigidly observed, the formation will be mathematically correct; and the same rule will be followed in forming line from oblique echellon upon any central company.

Exceptions to the Rule.

Q. 25. Is not the foregoing rule sometimes deviated from in practice?

A. Yes; for though the above rule is mathematically correct, yet, for the sake of expedition in practice, it is usually unattended to; for instance, in the case where an open column of divisions (suppose right in front) is ordered to form line on the leading division—instead of the remaining divisions being wheeled four paces backward on their right or reverse flanks, as they ought to be, the commanding officer orders them to wheel one-eighth of a circle to their left, and when thus in echellon, gives the word “FORWARD,” when they move into line.

xi. 17. 115.

Changing Position to the Front and Flank on a fixed Flank Company.

Q. 26. State how the battalion in line changes position to the front and flank, on a fixed flank company, by throwing forward the rest of the battalion?

A. When the commanding officer has determined the new line to be taken, by placing an aid in it, twenty or thirty paces beyond the fixed flank, he orders the serjeant from before the eighth file of the flank company, to wheel up into that line,

xl. 182

thereby to ascertain the number of paces required. He then directs that company to be wheeled and halted in the new position, and an aid to prolong the line as far as the moving flank of the battalion will extend. The caution is then given to the other companies to wheel towards it *half* the number of paces wheeled by the flank one (Q. 22), that each may stand perpendicular to the line, which unites its inner flank to the outer flank of the company last formed, in the new line. The battalion wheels into echelon, and moves on at the word "QUICK MARCH," forming line, as in other cases, from echelon. (Q. 20.)

Precaution in this Formation.

Q. 27. What does the correct formation, in this oblique line, chiefly depend upon?

xl. 183. 184

A. It depends chiefly upon the divisions having wheeled *only one half* the angle which the new position makes with the old one; for should they at first wheel the whole of that angle, they would then be marching parallel to that line, and arrive in it doubled behind each other. It is, therefore, to be always borne in mind by division leaders, that when a line is formed by a march in echelon, whether to the front or rear, each company has to bring forward its outer shoulders on arriving at the new position (a fact which seems too often forgotten), in order to bring it parallel to the intended line.

Changing Position to the Flank and Rear on a fixed Flank Company.

Q. 28. State the method of changing position to the flank and rear, on a fixed flank company, by throwing backward the rest of the battalion?

xli. 184

A. The new position is given as before, and the flank company wheeled into it in the manner already directed, but *backward* instead of *forward*.

The rest of the battalion receives the word, "REMAINING COMPANIES RIGHT ABOUT FACE, BY COMPANIES — PACES TO THE — WHEEL, QUICK MARCH;" the companies wheeling *forward* to the standing flank; or they may wheel backward into echelon, and then face about. The remaining companies next receive the word "QUICK MARCH," marching with their rear ranks in front, the covering serjeants running out at the proper time, as before, and the divisions wheeling successively,

by command from their own leaders, past the covering serjeants (a file giving way), till the *proper* front rank of each is aligned, with the proper rear rank of the company last formed, when they will receive the word "Halt, front, dress up."

Change Position in Line on a central Company.

Q. 29. How is the position of a battalion in line changed, upon a central company, by advancing the one wing, and retiring the other?

A. The named company may be wheeled upon the centre, xlii. 186 into the new direction. Two points are quickly taken in the line, about where the flanks of the battalion are to extend, and in the line of the central company. The retiring wing will be faced about; both wings will then wheel by companies inwards, and forwards, half as many paces as the central company has wheeled: the whole receiving the word "QUICK MARCH," will march forward into line, with the central company; the advancing wing dressing up, and the retiring wing fronting, and also dressing up, as already directed.

Form Line on the leading Division of an open Column.

Q. 30. How is line formed on the leading division of an open column, by the echelon march?

A. If the front company stands fast, the remaining companies wheel backward *four* paces, or the one-eighth of a circle, on their *reverse* flanks. xliii. 1. 185

But if the leading division is to be placed in an oblique direction to the column, by wheeling a certain number of paces, which must be backward, and on its *reverse* flank, the remaining companies will so correspond to this movement, in their wheel, upon their reverse flanks also, as to stand at right angles to the line, which their inner flanks should describe, in moving into the new line. Thus, if the leading division has wheeled backward *four* paces, the remaining divisions should wheel back *six* paces, and so on in the same proportion.

The movement, in other respects, is executed as already described.

Form Line on the rear Division of an open Column.

Q. 31. How is line formed on the rear division of an open column?

- xliii. 2. 188 *A.* If that company stands fast, the others will be faced about, wheeled round on their *pivot* flanks four paces, and afterwards move into line, as already directed. Or they may wheel forward four paces on the pivot flank, and be afterwards faced about.
-

Form Line on the same Division, facing to the Rear.

Q. 32. How is the line formed on the rear company, facing to the rear?

- xliii. 3. 188 *A.* The most simple manner of doing it is to make the whole column countermarch by files, and then proceed as in forming on a front company.
-

Form Line on a central Company of an open Column.

Q. 33. How is line formed on a central company of an open column?

- xliii. 4. 188 *A.* If the central company stands fast, those in front of it will face about; the whole, except the named company, will wheel back four paces on the flank that will first come into line. The rest of the formation is the same as in other cases from echelon. If the line is to be formed on a central company facing to the rear, the column may be countermarched by files, and afterwards proceed as in the manner just described.
-

Form Line on the Front Division of a direct Echelon.

Q. 34. How is line formed on the front division of a *direct* echelon of companies?

- xliv. 1. 189 *A.* The divisions may, in this case, have marched off at any named distance behind each other; but on the caution "FORM LINE ON THE LEADING DIVISION," the officer commanding that division will instantly "Halt" it, and dress it on his two serjeants and a battalion point; and the other companies, moving forward, will be halted and dressed up in line, upon the front division, covering serjeants running out as usual.
-

Form Line to a Flank from direct Echelon.

Q. 35. When it is intended to form line to the flank from direct echelon, what words of command are given?

- xliv. 2. 189 *A.* In this case, the divisions must be at wheeling distance in rear of each other; and on the word from the commanding

officer (supposing the right in front), "THE ECHELLON WILL CHANGE FRONT TO THE LEFT FLANK, RIGHT SHOULDERS FORWARD," the companies will wheel round on the moveable pivot, and as soon as the commanding officer has seen the completion of the quarter-circle wheel, he will give the word "HALT," or "FORWARD." By this movement, the rear becomes the head of the echelon, and the outward becomes the inner flank of companies, to which the commanders will shift during the wheel.

Line may then be formed, on any named division of the echelon, as already explained.

Post of covering Serjeants in direct Echelon.

Q. 36. Where are the covering serjeants of companies posted in *direct* echelon?

A. On the outward flank of their divisions, as in oblique echelon.

Form oblique Echelon and Line from direct Echelon.

Q. 37. May not an oblique echelon and line be formed from direct echelon of companies?

A. Yes; and the directing flank of the leading division will be considered as the first point in the intended line, and its precise direction will be established, by placing one of the aids as another point beyond, and before it. The covering serjeants will run out, upon the caution, and take up the line of covering from the *inner* flanks, at distances equal to the extent of the division which precedes them. The rear companies will then be moved, by the diagonal march, upon their respective serjeants. Or if the line is taken up more to the flank, they will be conducted by the combined application of filing, and the diagonal march, to those serjeants, and be halted and fronted square to their former front; and the oblique line is formed by the wheeling back of each company on the established echelon flanks. Or when the companies are thus placed, the whole may be put in motion to the front, and be halted and wheeled back into line, at some more advanced point.

xliv. 2. 189

Form Column from direct Echelon.

Q. 38. How is column formed from a direct echelon of companies?

xliv. 3. 190 *A.* Suppose the right of the echellon in front, and that the column is to be formed on the leading division, the remaining divisions will receive the word "THREES LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK MARCH,—FORWARD," and move into column, the covering serjeants running out, when they arrive within twenty paces, to mark the pivot flanks of their companies in column, where the commanders will stop, allowing their divisions to pass them, and on the rear of each company reaching the serjeant, it will receive the word, "Right shoulders forward, halt, dress."

The column may be formed in the same manner, upon any division of the echellon.

To avoid Obstacles in Echellon.

Q. 39. How do divisions in echellon avoid any obstacles that may present themselves to them on the march?

xi. 11. 112 *A.* They will file round them, without deranging the adjoining divisions, which preserve the necessary vacant spaces and distances, till the broken divisions can again take their places.

In what March, Movements in Echellon are executed.

Q. 40. In what march are all movements in echellon executed?

xi. 18, 19. 116 *A.* Except in rapid formations to line, from column or square, by subdivisions or sections, which may be made by the double march, the march in echellon will be generally conducted in quick time, and even in slow time, where the ground is much broken.

Q. 41. What ought the battalion to be practised in, when changing front by the march in echellon, to ascertain that the divisions have maintained their relative positions, and that they are prepared to shew a front at any moment, if attacked during the movement?

xi. 20. 116 *A.* The divisions in echellon should be accustomed to wheel back into line during the movement: thus, with one wing formed in the new line, the other wing, by wheeling back, should present another line at an angle (according to the degree of wheel) with it.

Q. 42. May the battalion form line by echellon to either flank?

A. Yes; and it should be frequently practised to do so; as xi. 21. 117 cases may occur in the field when the inversion of the companies may become necessary.

SECTION XXI.

FORMATION OF SQUARES.

General Remarks.

Q. 1. What general observations are applicable to all squares?

A. 1. *When square is formed on the centre subdivisions.*— xxi. 5. 147 Whenever the caution is given to a battalion in line, to form square upon the two centre companies or subdivisions, the colours and centre serjeants, and the commander of the left centre company, fall to the rear, and a serjeant from each of the flank companies runs out, to mark the rear angles of the square, facing to the rear.

2. *When a square moves, the centre of the leading face directs.*— xxii. 2. 151 When a square moves to any face, the centre of that face directs, and the colours move behind it.

3. *Officers and serjeants are in the centre.*—In all squares, except the hollow square, two deep, facing inwards (see *Q.* 24), officers and serjeants are to be in the centre, at one pace from the rear of their respective companies, where they ought to remain perfectly steady, instead of shuffling and moving about, as some of them are too apt to do.

4. *Rules for the kneeling ranks.*—For the rules applicable to the kneeling ranks in square, see Section xi. on the Firings.

5. *How divisions face to the rear in square.*—If divisions, moved into square by files, are required to form with their rear rank outermost, the word “Rear,” instead of “Right or left face,” will be given; and in no case should the word “Front” be given, except it is intended that the men should come to their proper front.

6. *Advantages of four-deep squares.*—The hollow square, xii. 2. 118

four-deep, is sufficiently solid to oppose an attack of cavalry, and it possesses several peculiar advantages.

7. *Ranks to close up in square.*—Whatever may be the depth of any square, the different ranks are not to allow the usual distance of a pace between them, but are to lock up for the purpose of firing.

8. *The outer men of faces to face outwards.*—The outermost man of each rank, on the flanks of faces, should face *outwards*, the outermost man at each of the four angles making a *half-face* outwards. On the caution to reduce the square, all those men will return to their proper front.

9. *No officer to be in front dressing his men in square.*—Except in forming the hollow square *two-deep*, no officer is to be seen outside the square dressing his company, the men being required to dress of themselves.

10. *The flanks of faces that are exposed and covered.*—In all battalion squares, whether they are formed from line or column, the two flanks of the front and rear faces are exposed, while those of the side faces are covered.

Rallying Square.

Q. 2. How is the rallying square formed?

xxiii. 64

A. On the word “FORM THE RALLYING SQUARE,” the men, who are dispersed, hasten to the officer or serjeant that commands (and who places himself facing the supposed enemy), fixing bayonets and ordering arms as they reach him; the two first who join him form on his right and left, facing outwards; the three next place themselves in front of those posted, and three others to the rear, facing to the rear, thus forming a square of three: the next four men will take post at the several angles, and others, as they come up, will complete the different faces between these angles, which will form a square of five.

If the front rank of any of the faces of the square should be incomplete, the commander will fill up the vacancies from the rear rank; a square thus composed of twenty-four men may be augmented to a square of forty-eight, eighty, and so on.

If men are rallied by a mounted officer, five men will form in his front, five in the rear, and three on the flanks; the rest of the formation proceeds as before. This formation should be practised both in squad and company drill, and it would be well if the orderly serjeants of companies would frequently direct the men, as the last bugle sounds for parade, “To form

the rallying square," as they go out of their barrack rooms ; so that soldiers, thoroughly instructed in it, may always be able to protect themselves upon an emergency.

Q. 3. How is the rallying square reduced ?

A. On the caution "reduce the square," two serjeants will mark the alignment facing the supposed enemy : on the word "quick march," the men open out, and fall in, in their proper places. xxiii. 65

Q. 4. May a company, or other small body of men, resist cavalry by any other formation ?

A. Yes ; it may be wheeled forward into column of sections, and be closed to the front ; when halted, the two rear sections face to the right about, and the two outward files of the second and third sections face to their right and left, so as to present a front in all directions : the men on the angles also face to the right and left.

Square, four-deep, on the Centre of the Battalion in Line.

Q. 5. How is a square or oblong, four-deep, formed on the centre of the battalion in line ? xxi. 5. 147

A. It may be formed on the two centre subdivisions, thus :—

The commanding officer gives the word, "ON THE TWO CENTRE SUBDIVISIONS FORM SQUARE," on which the colours and centre serjeants, and the officer commanding the left centre company, fall to the rear ; the two outer subdivisions of the centre companies face inwards, and their leading files disengage to the right and left ; a serjeant from each of the flank companies will post himself at the proper distance, square with the outer flank of the centre subdivision, and mark the rear angles of the square, facing to the rear.

The remaining companies face to the right about, and the two flank companies at the same time face inwards, the heads of their subdivisions disengaging to the rear ; on the word "RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, DOUBLE MARCH," the two centre subdivisions, which ought previously to have received the caution to close, from the officer commanding the left centre company, take three side-steps inwards, to fill up the interval left by the colours, while the two subdivisions that were faced inwards, led by their respective officers, file in rear of the two centre subdivisions, and are halted and fronted at the proper moment by their own leaders ; the remaining battalion companies move at once by sections, inclining forward their

outward shoulders, those of the right wing being left in front, and the sections composing the left wing right in front, in their movement towards their relative situations in the square, where they are conducted by the commanders of sections, who will have placed themselves on their *inner* flanks during the wheel, the officers commanding companies in the right wing quickly running forward, to take charge of their left or leading sections; the commander of the grenadiers, at the same time, placing himself in charge of his left or leading subdivision.

As the two sections of the left subdivision of No. 3 company approach their place in the intended square, the leader of the front section will remove in front of it, while the leader and the supernumeraries of the rear section will run round by its *outer* flank into the square; and when the leading section is *three* paces within the outer flank of the right centre company, where it will mark time till the succeeding section has closed upon it, its leader will give to both sections the word, "Halt, front;" the men feeling to their left or *inner* hand, and the line of the sections being perpendicular to the centre companies. The right subdivision sections of the same No. 3 company, form, in like manner, in a line with, and on the outer flank of those already formed; in the same manner Nos. 2 and 1 companies complete the right face of the square, while Nos. 6, 7, and 8, by a similar movement, form the left face, the left sections of each subdivision in the left wing covering in rear of the right sections; and the subdivisions of the two flank companies, conducted by their respective leaders to form the rear face, will pass in rear of the two serjeants that mark the angles of the square, where the commanders will themselves stop, to give to their subdivisions, at the proper moment, the word, "Halt, rear;" the right subdivision of the grenadiers, and the left subdivision of the light company, being the *outermost* in the square, and aligned with each other, the other two subdivisions forming the *inner* ranks of the rear face; the whole dressing from the outer flanks towards the centre; the serjeants at the angles will retire, as soon as the square is formed. The outermost man of each rank on the flanks, of the front and rear faces, will face outwards; the outermost man, at each of the four angles, making a half-face outwards.

In this manner any wing of a battalion, consisting of eight or ten subdivisions, may form square upon the two centre sections.

Re-form Line from this Square.

Q. 6. How is the line reformed from such a square?

A. On the caution, "RE-FORM LINE," the covering serjeants of the two centre companies, and one of the battalion directing serjeants will run out, as *base* points, the latter placing himself in front of the centre, (See Sect. ix. Q. 1,) and the other two taking distance for their whole companies and the colours, and facing inwards, the distant aid on each flank being made to cover them; at the same time the flank companies, and the rear subdivisions of the centre companies face outwards. xxi. 6. 149

On the word "QUICK OR DOUBLE MARCH," the two centre subdivisions, having previously received the caution from the officer commanding the left centre company, take three side-steps outwards, to make room for the colours; the officers of the two centre companies running in front of the centre, and, quickly dressing the centre subdivisions upon their respective covering serjeants and the distant battalion points, will remain there to dress also their outer subdivisions, which will have filed into line, receiving the word "Halt, front, dress up," from the second officer of each of those two companies, who will not, however, appear in front. The flank and other companies step off at the same time, the former move in file to their respective places, commanded as before; and the latter are brought into line by the march of subdivisions, the rear section of each subdivision stepping short, till it has gained its proper distance, and the commanders of companies leading the section nearest to the centre of the battalion, that they may be ready, when opposite their proper places in line, to give the word "Right or left shoulders forward—forward," and afterwards dress their whole company from the point of appui in line, upon their covering serjeants (who will run out as usual), and the distant points.

How to have moved such a Square.

Q. 7. Should it previously have been wished to move the square in any direction, how was it to be done?

A. By reducing it to a double column of subdivisions at quarter-distance, thus:—On the caution, "FORM DOUBLE COLUMN OF SUBDIVISIONS," the rear sections of the side faces will instantly step back to section distance, and the pivot men xxi. 7. 149

of all the sections of these faces will face inwards. On the word "QUICK MARCH," the sections that formed the side faces will wheel backward, and be halted by the commanders on the *left*; and at the same moment the two front subdivisions of the front face, and the four subdivisions forming the rear face, advance to quarter-distance, "Halt," and the latter "Front," by command of their respective leaders on the *proper left flank*, an officer posting himself on the outer flank of each subdivision of the double column, and all the supernumeraries quickly taking their proper places, as in a quarter-distance column. The whole will now stand a double column of subdivisions at quarter-distance, and may be moved in any direction, like any other column.

Form the same Square, when retiring in Line.

Q. 8. May such a square as that above referred to, be formed, while the line is retiring?

xxi. 8. 150

A. Yes; upon the word, "ON THE TWO CENTRE SUBDIVISIONS FORM SQUARE," they will halt, front, and close to the centre, without any further command, the colours falling to the rear, and the outer subdivisions of the two centre companies turning inwards, and forming upon those already halted; and the formation will be completed at the double march, as already directed (Q. 5), the commanding officer not giving the word "DOUBLE MARCH," till he is assured that the whole are moving correctly towards their relative positions in the square.

Re-form the Square from Double Column.

Q. 9. How is the square re-formed from double column?

xxi. 7. 149

A. On the caution, "RE-FORM SQUARE," the colours which were in rear of the two centre subdivisions will fall behind the two next subdivisions. On the word "Quick March," the two centre subdivisions will stand fast, and the remainder will move forward till the two following subdivisions have closed upon the centre ones, when the commanding officer will give the word "SECTIONS OUTWARDS," upon which the sections forming the side faces wheel outwards and close up, and the two flank companies on reaching the square receive from the respective officers on the left flank the word "Halt rear."

The best formation of Squares.

Q. 10. Is the square on the two centre subdivisions that which ought to be usually formed?

A. No; and it is never to be adopted in brigade, unless specially ordered; the most simple square is that which is formed from a quarter-distance column, and which is equally applicable to battalions of nine, eight, seven, or six companies. xxi. 4. 147

Formation of Square from a Quarter-Distance Column.

Q. 11. How is square formed from a column at quarter distance, supposing the right to be in front?

A. The commanding officer gives the word "FORM SQUARE, QUICK MARCH;" and when No. 1 company has closed on the grenadiers which stand fast, he gives the command "SECTIONS OUTWARDS," when the remaining companies, with the exception of the two rear ones, wheel outwards by sections, the rear sections closing to the front after the wheel; the two rear companies close up and form the rear face of the square, receiving from their respective leaders the words "Halt, rear." Square may be formed in like manner from line upon any named company, by previously forming on it a quarter-distance column, and proceeding as above directed. xxi. 1. 144

Q. 12. How is square formed on the front division of an open column?

A. If the column is moving to the front, the front division will be halted by its own leader on the caution, "FORM SQUARE ON THE LEADING DIVISION;" but if the column is halted, on the word "QUICK MARCH," after the caution, the front division will stand fast, the remaining divisions move forward till the second division has closed on the front one, when it will be halted by its own leader; the remaining companies, with the exception of the two rear ones, on arriving at quarter-distance, will receive the words from their respective commanders, "Sections outwards;" and the two rear divisions on closing will be ordered successively "Halt rear," to form the rear face of the square.

Q. 13. How is square formed from an oblique echelon of companies?

A. By throwing the echelon into column, and proceeding as in the last answer.

Q. 14. How is square formed from line, on a flank company and to a flank?

A. By first forming open column to a flank, by the command, "COMPANIES LEFT (OR RIGHT) SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK MARCH;" and when in column proceeding as already directed.

Square on a Central Company of an open Column.

Q. 15. State how the square is formed from a halted open column on a central company.

xxix. 2. 162

A. If the column be right in front, and that square is to be formed on the left centre company, the commanding officer, after the caution, will order "RIGHT WING, RIGHT ABOUT FACE, QUICK (OR DOUBLE) MARCH;" the officer commanding the named company will instantly give to it the word "Sections outwards;" the left wing will at the same time close to section distance, and the companies wheel in succession by "Sections outwards" in a similar manner, while the right wing will move towards the centre, with the rear rank in front; and when each company shall close up to the one that precedes it, the leader will give the word "Front turn, sections outwards;" the sections of both wings touching, after wheeling, towards the named company.

The two front and two rear companies of the column, which are to form the front and *rear* faces of the square, will receive at the proper time the words "Halt front," and "Halt rear." If the column is on the march, the front wing receives the word "RIGHT ABOUT TURN," and the formation goes on as before.

A Column moving to a Flank to form Square.

Q. 16. How is square formed on the centre from a column moving to a flank by files?

A. Suppose the column right in front, and moving to the right flank by files, upon the caution, "FORM SQUARE ON THE CENTRE," followed by the words "WINGS INWARDS TURN," the divisions will turn to the right and left; and the instant the left centre company shall turn, its leader will give the word "Sections outwards," the wings will close upon the centre, and each company will successively wheel outwards into square, as explained in the last answer.

If the movement to the flank be by threes, the command will be, "RIGHT SHOULDERS FORWARD—FORWARD—SQUARE ON

THE CENTRE, RIGHT WING RIGHT ABOUT TURN, DOUBLE MARCH;" and the formation proceeds as above directed.

Square resisting Cavalry.

Q. 17. How does a square resist cavalry?

A. On the caution, "PREPARE FOR CAVALRY," followed by xxi. 3. 145 the word "READY," the two front ranks all round the square come to the kneeling position, slanting their firelocks forward, and resting the butts on the ground; but the kneeling ranks will not cock until required to fire. (See Q. 14, p. 58.)

Reducing the Square.

Q. 18. How are all such squares reduced?

A. Upon the word "REFORM COLUMN," the rear sections of xxi. 4. 146 the two side faces step back to wheeling distance, the pivot men of sections face to their proper front; and upon the word "QUICK MARCH," they will wheel backwards, and will be halted by the respective leaders of companies; at the same time the front and two rear companies advance and retire, and receive respectively from their leaders the words "Halt dress," and "Halt front, dress," when at the regular quarter distance. The square is thus reduced to the proper order in column, and the supernumeraries will lose no time in resuming their proper places.

General Rule in the formation and reduction of Four-deep Squares.

Q. 19. Is there any general rule to be observed in the formation and reduction of these squares?

A. It may be observed, that when the formation takes place from a quarter-distance column already formed, the commanding officer gives the word to the side faces, "SECTIONS OUTWARDS;" whereas, if the companies close to quarter distance in succession, the command is to be given by division leaders; and it is to be remembered, in the reduction of these squares, the second division from the front invariably stands fast, the front division advancing, and the two rear divisions retiring to quarter distance.

Two-deep Square from Line.

Q. 20. How is a square two-deep formed from line?

xi. 4. 118

xxii. 1. 151

A. On the caution "FORM SQUARE TWO-DEEP ON THE TWO CENTRE COMPANIES," the flank serjeants will mark the rear angles; the colours, &c. fall back; the two centre companies receive the caution from the commander of the left centre company to take three side-steps inwards, and the remainder go to the right about: the word is then given, "REMAINING COMPANIES RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK MARCH;" on which the two centre companies close inwards, and the remaining companies, after bringing up their right and left shoulders the eighth of a circle, receive the word "FORWARD" (officers shifting during the wheel to the inward flank), and move into square; Nos. 1, 2, and 3, forming the right face, Nos. 6, 7, and 8, the left face, and the grenadiers and light company the rear face of the square; these last receiving from their leaders, on arriving at the rear angles, the words "Right—left shoulders forward, halt, front dress," the men dressing and feeling towards their inner flanks upon the serjeants at the rear angles, and a point that may be placed at the centre betwixt the two companies.

How the Square moves to any Face.

Q. 21. How does the square march to any face?

xxii. 2. 151

A. On the caution that "the SQUARE WILL MOVE TO FRONT, REAR, &c. FACE," the colours move up behind the centre of the named face; the commanding officer will then give the word to the two flank faces, "BY SUBDIVISIONS ON THE RIGHT AND LEFT BACKWARDS WHEEL;" upon the word "QUICK MARCH," they wheel back, and receive "Halt, dress," from the commanders of companies; each subdivision, however, having an officer on its outer flank,—and the rear face at the same time advances *two* paces, and then faces about without a special command. The square marches with two faces in line, and by their centre, and with two faces in open column of subdivisions, which cover and dress to the flanks, on which they wheeled back, where the leaders will carefully preserve their distances.

Re-form the Square.

Q. 22. How is the square re-formed?

A. On being halted, the commanding officer will give the word "RE-FORM SQUARE," the pivots of the flank faces, for the time being, face outwards, and on the word "QUICK MARCH," the subdivisions in column immediately wheel up, and form their faces; and the face that faced about again closes the interval of the two paces it formerly took, and comes to its proper front without further command—all the officers, during the wheel, removing to the centre. xxii. 2. 152

Or, instead of the flank faces wheeling back by subdivisions, in order to move to any face, they may be faced to the proper direction.

Reduce the Square.

Q. 23. How is the square reduced?

A. Upon the caution, "FORM LINE," the two centre companies receive from the commander of the left centre company the word "three side-steps outwards close, quick march;" the colours resume their place; the covering serjeants of those companies and battalion points are placed, and the centre companies are dressed, by their own commanders from the centre on their covering serjeants and the battalion points. The remaining companies receive the word, "RIGHT AND LEFT SHOULDERS FORWARD, QUICK MARCH, FORWARD," and are brought into line by the echelon movement, forming on the covering serjeants, as usual. The second word "FORWARD" applies to the divisions composing the flank faces, those forming the rear face continuing to wheel round, till they receive the word "FORWARD" from their own leaders. xxii. 3. 152

Another method of forming Two-deep Square.

Q. 24. Should the ground be uneven, or otherwise unfavourable for forming the two-deep square, by means of an echelon movement, is there any other manner in which it may be done?

A. Yes; the same operation may be performed by forming double column of companies in rear of the two centre companies, and then making those which are to form the flank faces wheel outwards, and the grenadiers and light company advance to the others, and come to the right about, by command of the officer on the left flank. A hollow square two-deep is formed *inwards*, in the same manner as outwards, and xxii. 3. 152

in forming two-deep squares, officers dress their companies from their inward flanks, upon the *outer* shoulder of the serjeant at the rear angle, instead of allowing the men, as in other squares, to dress without their assistance.

As this last square is usually formed for the purpose of having orders read, &c., the colours will remain in their usual situation between the two centre companies, and division leaders, after dressing them, will place themselves on the right of their companies, as in line. The same method is applied to the formation of three sides of a square facing inwards.

Solid Square from close Column.

Q. 25. How may a battalion in close column of companies form a *solid* square?

xii. 3. 118

A. Close column should, when practicable, open to quarter distance before it forms square; but when this is impossible, solid square may be formed in the following manner:—on the caution, the officers and serjeants of the two leading companies place themselves in rear of No. 1 division (if the right of the column be in front), and those of the two rear divisions in front of No. 8 company, and the remaining officers and serjeants, in rear of their respective companies; and, on the word “QUICK MARCH,” the six centre companies will wheel outwards by threes, and close to the front, and the two rear divisions come to the right about, the men at the angles of the square facing as usual.

A square of this kind may be formed from a close column of subdivisions, where only four or five companies are present.

How to re-form the close Column.

Q. 26. How is the close column re-formed?

A. The caution being given to “RE-FORM CLOSE COLUMN,” the sections of threes will open from the front to their proper distances, and on the word “QUICK MARCH,” they will wheel back on the right and left.

SECTION XXII.

DUTY AND POSITION OF COVERING SERJEANTS, IN ALL
CASES.*Rule No. 1. How they carry their Arms in giving
Points.*

Covering serjeants should always recover arms, in the manner stated in Q. 9, p. 21, when they are employed as points upon which to cover or dress. In the formation of lines, their arms will be kept in that position till they go to the rear; but in the formation of columns they will advance arms as soon as the covering is corrected, and the word "Steady" is given.

2. How they shift Flanks.

Whenever a covering serjeant shifts his flank with an officer, he should allow the officer to move first, and closely follow him, remembering to face to the *right about*, if on the right of the company; and to the left about, if he shift from the left of his division.

3. In what Time it should be done.

When a covering serjeant runs out to give a point, or to shift flanks, he will move in double time.

4. How to face in giving Points.

When covering serjeants are placed as points, on which their own companies are to cover or dress in *column*, or *echelon*, they will invariably have the same front as their divisions, with their arms advanced; but when they take up distances or points for lines, or any other formations, except columns or echellons, they will face the point ofappui; or when they act as general aids, on which a whole column or echelon is to form, or move, they will face the column, holding their fusils as in Q. 9, p. 21.

Consequently, when any flank company is named as the base

of a new line, the two serjeants that give points will face to the left flank, if the left company is the base; and to the right flank, if the right company is the base. But if the formation is to be on any other than a flank company, the two serjeants will face each other.—Sec. iii. Q. 16.

5. *When to resume their Place, from giving Points.*

Covering serjeants, after being once placed as points, and corrected, are not afterwards to move, unless so ordered by a mounted officer. Nor, in giving points on which to form line, are they to resume their proper place, till the third company from them has received the word “Eyes front.”

6. *When the covering Serjeant is to occupy his Officer's Place.*

Whenever a division leader (p. 127) quits his place, either in taking open order,—to fire by divisions,—to close by the side-step,—to dress his company,—or upon any occasion when a specific situation is not assigned to the covering serjeant, that serjeant will occupy the officer's place.

When, while the battalion is in line, commanders of companies, who may have been in front, return to their place; or when officers have to pass to the front or rear, as in taking open or close order,—the covering serjeants, recovering fusils, will face to the right, and act as in Q. 2, p. 44, and Q. 6. p. 45.

7. *When Formations are made from Subdivisions.*

When formations are made from subdivisions, the covering serjeants of companies are sufficient to take up the distance and covering for both subdivisions.

8. *Covering Serjeant's Place in Line.*

In line the covering serjeant covers his commander;—when the line is faced about, or marches rear rank in front, he remains in front of his officer.

9. *In firing a Volley, &c.*

On the battalion receiving the caution to fire a volley, or by wings, the covering serjeants remain in their places in line.

10. *In moving by Wings.*

In advancing or retiring by wings, the covering serjeants will hold the same place as in line.

When the line is ordered to be re-formed from wings, the

covering serjeants *do not* run out to give points upon which to dress, as in other formations to line.

11. *In open Order in Line.*

When the battalion in line, at open order, receives the caution to take close order, the covering serjeants recover arms, and face with the officers; and on the word "MARCH," they take three side-steps to the right, and a short step to the rear, and, after the officers have passed, come to their front, advancing arms as before.

12. *In Open, Half, and Quarter-distance Column.*

In open, half, or quarter-distance column of divisions, or subdivisions, the covering serjeant is one pace behind the second file from the pivot flank of the division or of the leading subdivision or section of his company.

13. *They are never to command Subdivisions nor Sections.*

It is laid down as a rule, that, in the absence of a sufficient number of officers to command subdivisions and sections, the covering serjeant shall command the second subdivision, and, in sections, the next to that of the commander's section: but, in practice, it becomes necessary that such subdivisions and sections should be commanded by other serjeants, leaving the covering serjeant to the exclusive performance of his own duties.

14. *In forming Columns and Lines.*

In all formations of columns or lines, the covering serjeant will run out when the company arrives within twenty paces of the point of formation. x. 1. 102
vii. 5. 85

15. *In close Column.*

In close column, the covering serjeant covers his division leader, and remains, as in line, in his front, should the column be faced about to take ground to the rear.

16. *When a Column moves to a Flank.*

On the caution that any column will move to a flank by files or threes, if the division leaders are ordered to shift, the covering serjeant will also shift to the leading flank, placing himself outside the supernumeraries in close column, and

resuming his proper place on the column being halted and fronted.

17. *When a Column opens from the Front or Rear.*

On the caution that a close column will open to quarter, half, or wheeling distance from *the rear*, the covering serjeant will step behind the second file from the pivot flank; but if the column is to open from *the front*, he will not move to the *proper rear* of that file till the column be faced about.

18. *When a Column closes to the Front.*

When an open or quarter-distance column closes to the front, the covering serjeants will not cover their respective commanders till their own divisions, having closed, receive the word "Halt."

19. *When the Column countermarches by Files or Ranks.*

On the caution that the column will countermarch by files or ranks, the covering serjeants instantly cover their commanders; and, upon the men being faced, they will come to the *right about*, and will remain in that position till the completion of the countermarch, and the word "Eyes front" be given, when they will resume their proper place in the column.

20. *When a Column wheels into Line.*

On the caution being given to an open column of divisions, or subdivisions, right in front, "LEFT WHEEL INTO LINE," the covering serjeants will place themselves on the right of their companies.

If a column left in front receives the command, "RIGHT WHEEL INTO LINE," the covering serjeants remain on the caution, immediately behind the second file from the pivot or right-hand file of the whole company; and, on the word "QUICK MARCH," step to the front, keeping their commander's place, until the wheel is finished and the company dressed.

The same rules are to be observed when a column wheels backwards into line.

21. *When a Line breaks into open Column.*

On the caution that a line will wheel either backward or forward, by divisions or subdivisions, into column, the covering serjeants will step back two paces; and, on the word "QUICK MARCH," will shift to their proper place, behind the second file

from the pivot flank of the company, or of the leading subdivision or section.

The same rule is to be observed when the men are faced about, previously to wheeling into column.

22. When Companies wheel on the Centre.

When one or more companies receive the caution to wheel, either to the right or left, upon the centre, the covering serjeant of each will place himself at the point where the pivot flank is to rest in column, or the right flank is to rest, if the wheel is to be into line, facing the future front. But if a column of companies is to wheel, on the centre, to the right (or left) about, the covering serjeants, instantly placing themselves on the pivot flanks of their companies, in a line with the front rank, will face to the right about, and remain there until the wheel is completed, and the men have received the word "Eyes front."

23. When the Front of an open Column is increased.

On the caution that a halted open column of subdivisions will form column of divisions, the covering serjeant of each company will run out to mark the pivot flank, where he will remain till the completion of the movement, and the word "Eyes front" has been given.

24. Or diminished.

On the caution that an open column of companies, either halted or on the march, will form subdivisions, the covering serjeant of each will place himself behind the second file from the pivot flank of the reverse subdivision.

25. When Line is thrown into open Column, by the Wheel on the moveable Pivot.

When a line is thrown into open column, either single or double, by the wheel of divisions or subdivisions, on the moveable pivot, the covering serjeants will remove, during the wheel, behind the second file from the new pivot flank.

26. When a Column changes Front and Wings, by the March of double Files from the Centre.

When a column changes front and wings, by the march of double files from the centre, the covering serjeant of each company will lead the front rank of the right subdivision, if the

right is to be the *future* pivot, and the front rank of the left subdivision, if the *left* is to be the pivot, locking well up to the rear of the preceding company; on the word "Front, form company," the covering serjeant hastens round the flank to his proper place behind the pivot flank.

27. *When Column deploys into Line.*

On the caution that a column will deploy into line, the covering serjeant of each company will shift, with his commander, if necessary, to its leading flank, outside the supernumeraries, if in close column, holding himself answerable for the parallelism of his division, during the deployment, and running out to take up its distance in the line, when one half of it is clear of the division, on which it is to form, if the formation is on the *front* division; if not, he will wait till his company is halted and fronted.

28. *In moving to a Flank by Files, Threes, or Fours.*

Whenever a company is faced, in order to move to a flank by files, the covering serjeant will place himself in front of the front rank.

In marching by threes to a flank, the covering serjeant will lead the centre rank, which covers him exactly; the other two ranks feeling to the centre; and the covering serjeant will be answerable, under the direction of his commander, for the dressing and distance of his company, if moving in column to a flank by threes, fours, or files.

In moving to a flank four-deep, the covering serjeant will lead the front or inner rank, to which the other ranks must feel.

29. *When the Battalion, moving to a Flank, forms to the Front, &c.*

When the companies of a battalion (in line or column), marching to a flank, by files, receive the command "FRONT FORM," "RIGHT (OR LEFT) FORM," "RIGHT (OR LEFT) ABOUT FORM;" should the formation throw the battalion into column, the covering serjeant of each company will instantly fall to the rear.

But if the formation brings the companies into line, the covering serjeants will remain on the leading flank of their companies, to keep their own commander's place or that of the officer commanding the contiguous company in the line.

30. *When Companies wheel into Echellon.*

When companies, either in line or column, receive the caution to wheel a certain number of paces, backwards or forwards, into echellon, the covering serjeant of each will hasten, by the nearest way, in front or rear (as the case may require) of the eighth file from the inner or pivot flank; and on the word "Steady" from a mounted officer, the whole of the serjeants will take together, in quick time, the specified number of paces, of thirty inches, from the centre of that file, upon the arc of the circle which it will describe, coming to the same front with their company; after the company has wheeled, and received the word "Eyes front," the covering serjeant will place himself on its outer flank, which is always his post, either in oblique or direct echellon. xliiii. 1. 187

31. *Echellons on the moveable Pivot.*

When an oblique echellon is formed, either from line or column, or a direct echellon of companies changes its front, by a wheel on the moveable pivot, the covering serjeants will move to the new outer flanks of their companies by the rear during the wheel.

32. *In Squares.*

In all squares, covering serjeants are in the centre.

33. *In hollow Square, Two-deep.*

It seems necessary to remind covering serjeants, that when a hollow square, two-deep, or a part of such a square, is formed on the centre companies (whether outwards or inwards), they ought to be on the outer flanks of their divisions in echellon, and to run out, to take up their distance and covering in the square, as in similar cases from echellon.

34. *During the Manual and Platoon Exercise.*

During the manual and platoon exercise of the battalion in line, the covering serjeants will remain stationary in their commanders' places.

35. *Breaking off Files.*

When files are broken off, the covering serjeant covers his officer till all the files are again brought to the front. xviii. 58

DUTY AND POSITION OF COVERING SERJEANTS IN
SPECIAL CASES.

36. *Duty of covering Serjeants of a Flank Company, when closing to Right or left in Line.*

When one or more companies of the battalion, in line, receive the caution to move to *the outward* hand, by the side-step, the covering serjeant of the grenadiers, or the serjeant covering the officer on the left of the battalion (as the case may be) will run to his right or left, the probable distance required for the closing, and aligning himself with the front rank of the battalion, will form a point on which commanders may dress their companies.

But if the closing is ordered to the inner hand, one or other of the serjeants above mentioned will place himself in a line with the front rank, standing fast in that position, as a point upon which the dressing may be corrected after the halt.

37. *Their duty in forming Column, in rear of their own Division.*

On the caution that the battalion, halted in line, will form column, in rear of either of the flank companies, or that a halted column will close to the front, the covering serjeant of the front division will run, by the nearest way, and place himself six paces directly in front of his commander, on the pivot flank of his company, and facing it; where he will remain till the column is formed or closed.

But if the column is to be formed, *in front* of either of the flank companies, or a column already formed, is to be closed to the *rear* division, the covering serjeant of that division will place himself, in like manner, in rear of it, and facing it. But if the formation of the column, from line, be required upon a central, or any other than a flank, division, the covering serjeants of the companies immediately in front and rear of the named division will run out and take up their distance on the pivot flank, and be placed in the true perpendicular line by a mounted officer, no other points being required.

38. *When Column is formed on a Company facing to the Rear.*

On the caution that the battalion in line will form column,

upon any company facing to the rear, the covering serjeant of the named company will place himself, facing his future front, at that point where the pivot flank of his division will rest in the column.

39. *On the Caution to deploy from Column.*

On the caution that a column will deploy upon any rear company, two serjeants belonging to that company will instantly place themselves as base points, close in front of the front division of the column, if the deployment is to be by files, or *three* paces in front of it, if the deployment is to be by threes.

40. *Column wheeling into Line.*

On the caution that an open column of divisions or subdivisions will wheel into line, upon a halted pivot, the covering serjeant of the leading company will run out, by the nearest way, and place himself at the point, where the outer or wheeling flank of the leading division, subdivision, or section, will rest in line.

If a line receives the caution to wheel, either backward or forward, into column, the covering serjeant of the leading company of the new column will run, by the nearest way, and place himself at the point, where the wheeling flank of the leading division, subdivision, or section, will rest in column.

41. *In forming Square.*

Whenever the battalion in line receives the caution to form square, the covering serjeants of the two flank companies will run out, and mark its rear angles ; and, after so covering on the outer flanks of the front face, as to leave, between them, the proper distance for their two companies, they will face about to the rear.

42. *Forming Line from Double Column.*

When a double column of subdivisions receives the caution to form line on the two centre subdivisions, the covering serjeants of the two centre companies will run out, and take up distance and covering in line for their whole company, with one additional pace each for the colours.

43. *Changing Front to the Rear, on the Centre.*

When the battalion in line receives the caution to "CHANGE its FRONT to the REAR, upon the CENTRE," the covering serjeants of the two centre companies will change places, and

take up the points of formation to the new front, covering upon a centre serjeant, who will face to his left.

44. *Wheeling a close Column.*

When a column, halted at close or quarter-distance, receives the command "RIGHT (OR LEFT) WHEEL," the covering serjeant of the leading division will move out, to mark the point where the outward flank of his company will rest, after the completion of the wheel; upon which he will resume his proper place in his company; but if the wheel is ordered, while the column is in motion, the covering serjeant will remain in his usual place, behind his commander.

SECTION XXIII.

SITUATION OF THE SUPERNUMERARY RANK, IN ALL CASES.

Rule No. 1.—When a single Company falls in.

When a single company falls in, at close order, on its private parade, or for the inspection of a superior officer, the supernumerary rank is at *three paces'* distance from the rear rank, dressing from the right.—Sec. i. Q. 41.

2. The Battalion in Line.

When the battalion is in line, it is at the same distance, dressing from the centre, and also when the battalion moves by wings.

3. Open Order when in Line.

When the battalion in line receives the word "MARCH," in order to open ranks, the supernumerary rank steps to the rear one pace, and again steps forward, when the ranks take close order; so that it shall be at all times in line, at three paces' distance from the rear rank, except in the two following cases; viz. when movements are made close along the rear of the line, as in the event of a column forming line to its reverse

flank, where it closes to *one* pace ; and also on the caution that a line will wheel, either forward or backward, by divisions, into column, when the supernumerary rank will step forward *one* pace.

4. *Dressing of the Supernumerary Rank.*

Whenever a formation is made, by successive divisions, to line, the supernumerary rank will take its dressing, during the movement, from the point of appui ; but the line being once formed, any subsequent correction of the dressing of the supernumerary rank ought to be made from the centre. In column, the supernumerary rank dresses from the pivot, and in echelon from the inner flank.

5. *Arrangement of the Supernumerary Officers, in Line and open Column.*

In line or column, at close order or in echelon, the second officer in command of each company will cover the second file from the opposite flank to that occupied by the division leader ; and the third officer will be in rear of the centre. Should there be four officers with the company, the two juniors will be in rear of the centre of the second and third sections ; the sergeants will divide the distance between the officers.

When rear ranks take open order, either in line or column, the subaltern officers will be arranged in the same manner, *in front* of their company ; and in taking open or close order, two officers will move out and return by the right ; and the other two (if there are so many as four) by the left flank of their company.—Q. 2, p. 44.

6. *Steadiness of the supernumerary Rank.*

The supernumerary rank should remain as steady, upon all occasions, as the line of men.

7. *Distance of the Supernumerary Rank in open or Quarter-distance Column.*

In open, half, or quarter-distance column, the supernumerary rank is *one* pace from the rear rank ; but when an open column, marching past a superior officer, takes open order, the supernumerary rank is at *three* paces' distance.

8. *Closing by the Side-step.*

In closing by the side-step, the supernumerary rank should move as regularly as the men.

9. *When the Line or Column faces about.*

When the line or column faces about, the supernumerary rank will still preserve its relative position.

10. *In moving to a Flank by Files or Threes.*

In marching to a flank, by files, threes, or fours, the supernumerary rank will move in the same direction with the men, to whose movements it will correspond upon all occasions, unless a specific position be allotted to it.

11. *When Division Leaders shift Flanks.*

When division leaders shift their flanks in open column, the supernumerary officers will instantly make a corresponding change of place.

12. *Supernumerary Rank in close Column.*

In close column, the supernumerary rank of each company will be formed on its reverse flank, drawn up two-deep, the officers being in the front rank. But the supernumeraries do not place themselves thus on the flank till their respective companies have been halted in the column.

13. *Close Column moving to a Flank.*

When a close column receives the caution to move, by files to a flank, the supernumeraries do not shift flanks.

14. *Close Column wheeling on the reverse Flank.*

If a halted close column receives the command to wheel on the *reverse* flank, the outer supernumerary of the leading division becomes the pivot, and faces accordingly.

15. *Column opening from the Rear, and Front.*

When a close column is required to open to quarter or wheeling distance, the supernumeraries will not place themselves in rear of their companies till they have opened out respectively.

16. *Deployments.*

In deploying a close column, the supernumeraries will accompany the column on the reverse flank, until the word —“Turn,” or “Halt, front” is given to their respective companies, when they will place themselves in their rear.

17. *Close Column countermarching by Files.*

When a close column countermarches by files or ranks, the supernumeraries will face with the men, and countermarch on their own ground.

18. *Who commands the Supernumeraries of each Company.*

When necessary, the supernumeraries of each company will receive the word of command, in a low tone of voice, from the senior supernumerary.

19. *Distance of the Supernumerary Rank in Echelon.*

The supernumerary rank is to be at the same distance from the rear rank in echelon as in column; viz. one pace.

20. *Passage of double Files from the Centre.*

When an open or half-distance column changes its front and wings, by the passage of double files from the centre, the supernumeraries of each company will face inwards, with their men, and on the march form one rank in the centre, between the two subdivisions, which ought therefore to keep at a little distance from each other, to make room for them; one of the supernumeraries being aligned with and between the two centre files of the company. Plate xii.

21. *Supernumeraries see that Rear Ranks lock up in Firing.*

The supernumeraries will take care that the rear rank locks well up during the firings; but this duty must be performed without noise.

22. *Supernumeraries, during the Performance of the Manual and Platoon Exercise.*

During the performance of the manual and platoon exercise the supernumeraries remain perfectly steady, *silently* marking inattentive men.

23. *When Movements are made along the Rear of the Line Supernumeraries close up.*

When movements are made along the rear of the line, as in forming line by successive divisions to the reverse flank of an open column, or in marching from line by successive divisions in column from a flank, the supernumerary rank closes up to one pace distance.

24. *Duty of Supernumeraries in forming Squares four-deep.*

During the formation of a square, four-deep, on the two centre subdivisions of the battalion in line, the supernumeraries of the *outer* sections of subdivisions, to prevent confusion, must run, in time, round their outer flanks, into the centre of the square; and, for the same reason, in reducing the square, the whole of the supernumeraries of the side-faces will remain in rear of the *inner* sections of subdivisions, till the line is re-formed.

25. *And in forming solid Square.*

For the manner in which the supernumeraries should arrange themselves in forming and reducing the solid square—see Q. 25, p. 128.

SECTION XXIV.

SITUATION OF THE COLOURS.

The Colours, if the Officers carrying them are attentive, may be an aid to the general Movements of the Battalion.

The colours, instead of being an assistance, are frequently, from the inattention of those who carry them, a hinderance to the movements of the battalion; the ensigns who bear the colours, therefore, are to attend to the following rules for their position in all cases.

1. *The Officer carrying the King's Colour is responsible for the Movements of the Colours and Centre Serjeants.*

ix. 19. 96

The officer carrying the King's colour will give his orders for the movement of the colours and centre serjeants, in a low tone of voice; but these movements should be compact, and

not in the straggling and uncertain manner in which they are too commonly made. When the line is at open order, or when the battalion marches past a superior officer, either in slow or quick time, the colours may be allowed to fly ; but in the evolutions of the battalion they are to be furled, to remove the appearance of unsteadiness, and to serve better as directing points.

2. *In Line, at Close Order.*

When the battalion is in line, at close order, the colours are in the centre, and in a line with the front rank of the men.

3. *In Line at Open Order.*

In open order, in line, they conform to all the movements of the officers generally,—stepping to the front, facing with them, and retiring when officers take post of exercise in the rear, &c.

4. *In Open, Half, or Quarter-distance Column.*

In open, half, or quarter-distance column, the colours and their centre serjeants cover the third, fourth, and fifth files from the pivot flank of the right centre company, if the right of the column is in front, and of the left centre company if the left of the column is in front, and in a line with the supernumerary rank. ix. 19. 96

5. *Wheeling into Line, and into Column.*

In all wheelings of the column into line, or of the line into column, the colours incline, during the wheel, to their new position.

6. *When an Open Column closes.*

When an open column closes to the front, the colours will incline to the outer flank of the company they are following, at the moment it halts, in order to be prepared to place themselves, without confusion, on the outer flank of the company in their rear, the instant it is halted in close column ; so that upon all occasions in close column they may be on the *right* of the left centre company, if the right of the column is in front, and on the left of the right centre company, if the left of the column is in front.

7. *Colours to shift Flanks in Column with the other Supernumeraries.*

Whenever division leaders shift their flanks in open column the colours must do so at the same time.

8. *When the Supernumeraries, in Close Column, counter-march on their own Ground.*

When the supernumeraries, in close column, counter-march on their own ground, the colours counter-march round to the flank of the company in their rear, and in such a manner as that they may be always inside the other supernumeraries of their proper company in close column; upon its receiving the caution to deploy, the colours will remain on the reverse flank of the column, and march along with it, both to the flank and to the front into line.

9. *When a Close Column moves to its reverse Flank.*

When a close column moves to its reverse flank, the colours will remain on that flank.

10. *When a Column opens from the Front or Rear, or the Centre.*

When a close column opens to quarter or wheeling distance from the front or rear, the colours move to their proper place, behind the pivot flank, along with the other supernumeraries.

11. *When Companies, from Line, form Close Column in Front or Rear of any Company.*

When companies march to a flank, from line, to form close column, right in front, upon any company in the right wing, the colours ought to lead the left centre company; if the column is formed on any division in the left wing they will follow the left centre company, and be halted and fronted with it; when the column is to be left in front, formed on a company in the right wing, they will follow the right centre company; and if the formation is on a division in the left wing, then they will lead the right centre company, and be halted and fronted with it.

12. *When Companies, from Line, form Close Column on any Company facing to the Rear.*

When the battalion in line is ordered to form close column, right in front, upon any company facing to the rear, the colours will counter-march with the left centre company; but if the column is to be formed, left in front, facing to the rear, they counter-march with the right centre company.

13. *When a Column marches past a Superior Officer.*

When the directing flank of a column is changed for a time, as in marching past a general officer, the colours will conform to the change, by inclining to the third file from the new pivot flank.

14. *When an Open, or Quarter-distance Column countermarches by Files or Ranks.*

When an open or quarter-distance column, right in front, countermarches by files or ranks, the colours face with the right centre company, and having countermarched on their own ground, will "front, turn," and move to their proper place, in the rear of the left centre company. If a column, left in front, countermarches by files or ranks, the reverse of this is the rule.

15. *When the Battalion in Line moves, in Open Column of Divisions, from a Flank.*

When the battalion moves, in open column of companies, from the left flank along the rear, the colours will face to the right, with the left centre company, but will not file to the rear till that company has passed in column: the same rule will be observed respecting the right centre company, when the battalion moves in open column of divisions, from the right flank.

16. *When an Open Column receives the Command, "By successive Divisions, Rear Wing to the Front."*

When an open column, right in front, receives the command, "By successive divisions, rear wing to the front," the colours will face with the left centre company, but wait till it has passed before they file to the rear; the same takes place in respect of the right centre division, with a column left in front.

17. *When a Column changes Front and Wings by the passage of double Files from the Centre.*

When an open or half-distance column changes front and wings, by the passage of double files from the centre, the colours will file in rear of the left centre company, if the right of the column *has been* in front, and *vice versa*, if the left has been in front. On the company receiving the command "form

company," the colours resume their proper place behind it.
Sec. xiii. Q. 39.

18. *When the Battalion in Line forms double Column.*

When the battalion in line receives the caution to form double column, the colours fall to the rear, where they remain until the column, being cautioned to re-form line, receives the word "Quick or double march," when the colours resume their place in line, on an opening being made for them.

19. *When the Battalion in Line retires from both Flanks by Subdivisions in rear of the Centre.*

The colours remain in their place till the two centre subdivisions receive the word "Right about face," when the colours will go to their *proper* rear.

20. *In marching by Wings.*

In marching by wings, the King's colour, with his coverer, and the *front* centre serjeant, will accompany the right wing; the regimental colour, with his coverer, and the rear rank centre serjeant, will attend the left wing; therefore, on the caution that the battalion in line will advance by wings, the front rank centre serjeant will advance six paces, to lead the right wing, and his coverer will, at the same time, place himself close in front of the regimental colour, to be ready, when the right wing is put in motion, to take, in like manner, six paces to the front, for the purpose of guiding the left wing. The King's colour, and his coverer, will also step to the left, to cover the directing serjeant of the right wing.

On the caution that the battalion will retire by wings, the *rear rank* centre serjeant, placing himself behind the regimental colour, will move six paces to the rear; the front rank centre serjeant, going at the same time to the right about, will place himself in a line with the directing serjeant of the left wing; while the King's colour, and its coverer, will take two side-steps to the left, to close upon the regimental colour. On the line being re-formed, the colours resume their proper places.

21. *When Companies are in Echelon.*

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Whenever a line or column of companies is wheeled into echelon, the colours will make a corresponding wheel, and form a section of themselves.

22. *When the Battalion in Line receives the command,
“Sections right” or “left.”*

When the battalion, in line, receives the word “Sections, right (or left)” the colours and centre serjeants will consider themselves as a distinct section, and move accordingly.

23. *When the Battalion is in direct Echellon of
Divisions.*

When a line advances, or retires, in direct echellon of companies, the *proper* right being in front, the colours will move in rear of the left flank of the right centre company; when, on the contrary, the echellon advances or retires with its *proper* left in front, the colours will be in rear of the left centre company. xliv. 3. 190

24. *When the Battalion is cautioned to form Square.*

Upon all occasions, when the word is given to a line “to form square,” the colours fall to the rear, and remain in the centre of the square. When the square is ordered to move, they will be placed in rear of the centre of that face to which the square moves.

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THE END.



Catechetical explanation of the field exercise and evolutions of the Army
for the use and guidance of the 93d Highlanders

London 1835

Bamberg, Staatsbibliothek -- R.mil.o.85-a
urn:nbn:de:bvb:12-bsb11765924-6